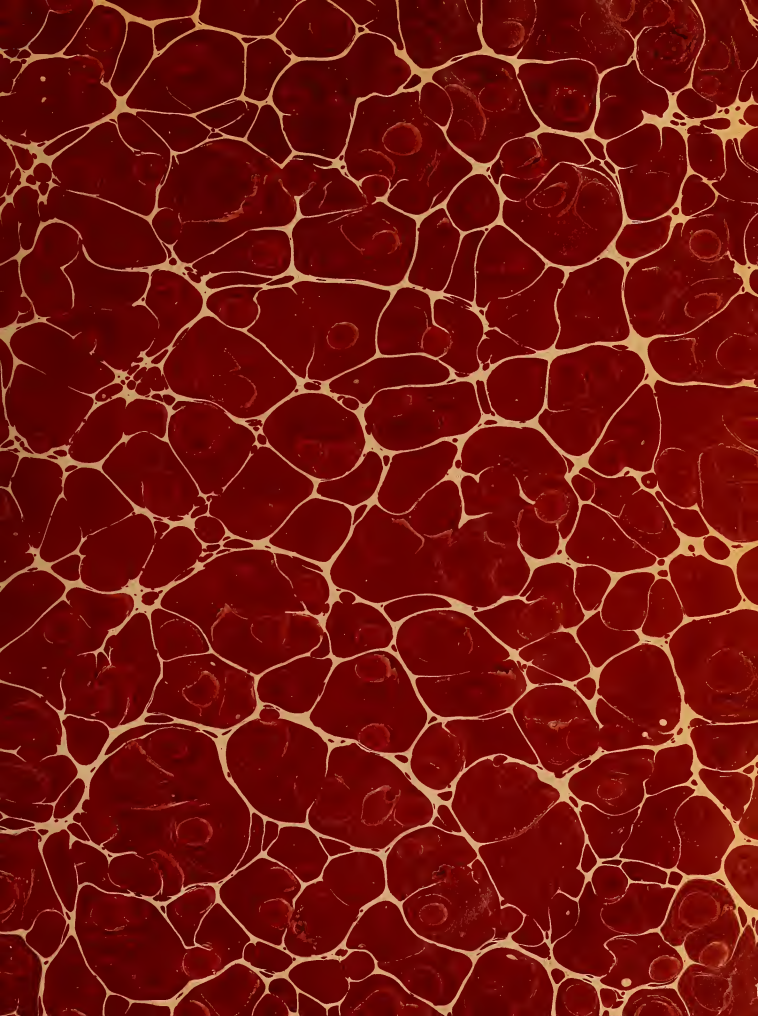






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OLD MANCHESTER.

A SERIES OF VIEWS

OF THE MORE ANCIENT BUILDINGS IN MANCHESTER AND ITS
VICINITY, AS THEY APPEARED FIFTY YEARS AGO.

Drawn by RALSTON, JAMES, and Others,

AND REPRODUCED BY THE AUTOTYPE PROCESS

BY ALFRED BROTHERS, F.R.A.S.

WITH

AN INTRODUCTION

BY JAMES CROSTON, F.S.A., F.R.HIST.SOC.

AUTHOR OF A "HISTORY OF THE ANCIENT HALL OF SAMLESBURY,"
"OLD MANCHESTER AND ITS WORTHIES,"
ETC. ETC.

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LIST OF PLATES.

- ✓ 1. Frontispiece (adapted to the present work) from "Jackson's Views of Manchester Streets." Painted by Mr. Mather Brown, principal Artist to H.R.H. the Duke of York. Drawn on Stone by A. Aglio. 1823.
2. Market Place. Drawn by J. Ralston, and on stone by J. D. Harding. Printed by Hulmandel.
- ✓ 3. Market Street (lower end). Drawn by J. Ralston, and on stone by J. D. Harding. Printed by Hulmandel.
- ✓ 4. Market Street (lower end). Drawn by J. Ralston, and on stone by A. Aglio. Printed by Chater and Co.
- ✓ 5. Dr. White's House, King Street (the site of the present Town Hall). Drawn by J. Ralston, and on stone by A. Aglio. Printed by Chater and Co.
- ✓ 6. Mr. Hyde's Shop, Market Street. Drawn by J. Ralston, and on stone and printed by A. Aglio.
- ✓ 7. Market Street (near Hyde's shop). Drawn by J. Ralston, and on stone by A. Aglio. Printed by N. Chater and Co.
- ✓ 8. Blackfriars Bridge. Drawn by J. Ralston, and on stone by A. Aglio. Printed by Chater and Co.
- ✓ 9. Salford Cross. Drawn by J. Ralston, and on stone by G. Harley, the figures by D. Dighton. Printed by W. Day.
- ✓ 10. Salford Cross (another view, showing the Stocks). Drawn on stone by J. Ralston, and printed by Rowney and Foster.
- ✓ 11. Middle of Market Street. Drawn by J. Ralston, and on stone by A. Aglio.
- ✓ 12. Top of Market Street. Drawn by J. Ralston, and on stone by A. Aglio.

*The following 36 Plates are from the work usually known as "JAMES'S VIEWS,"
published May 9, 1825.*

13. Garratt Hall. (1)
14. Old Church and Bridge, from Blackfriars. (2)
15. Old House, top of Smithy Door. (3)
16. Saint Augustine's Chapel. (4)
17. College Old Gate and Grammar School. (5)
18. Woolpack, Deansgate. (6)
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20. Old Buildings, taken down, near Strangeways Bridge. (8)
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23. Southerly View of Market Street. (11)
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27. North View of Crumpsall Hall, the birthplace of Humphrey Chetham. (15)
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31. Ancoats Hall. (19)
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41. West View of Trafford Park (from a drawing by Mrs. Petteward). (29)
42. Old Church and Bridge. (30)
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46. Smithy Door. (34)
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The following Plates are from the original Drawings by J. Ralston (1822), and have never before been published.

- ✓ 49. Market Place and lower end of Market Street.
- ✓ 50. Corner of Brown Street and Market Street.
- ✓ 51. Entrance to Cross Street, Market Street.
- ✓ 52. Thatched House Tavern, back of Market Street.
- ✓ 53. Lower end of King Street.
- ✓ 54. Lower end of Market Street.
- ✓ 55. Market Street.
- ✓ 56. Harrop's Printing Office and Hyde's Shop, Market Street.

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- ✓ 57. Smithy Door.
 - ✓ 58. Palace Inn, Market Street Lane.
 - ✓ 59. Plan of Market Street before it was widened.
 - ✓ 60. Map of Manchester (1772).



OLD MANCHESTER.

FIFTY years have wrought a mighty change in the aspect of "Old Manchester,"—a change, greater perhaps than any other provincial town can show. In that period the hand of the improver has been busily employed, and comparatively little now remains to show how the commercial city of the present is linked with the small trading town of the past. Fifty years ago, though the place had increased in size as well as in wealth from the time when, a century previously, Dr. Stukeley, in his "*Itinerarium Curiosum*," described it as "the largest, most rich, populous and busy village in England," it still retained its ancient features, comparatively unimpaired. In the district immediately surrounding the Collegiate Church—the present Cathedral,—which then constituted the centre of the town, the streets were dingy, intricate, and ill-paved, and in many places so confined as to be perilous to the safety of the wayfarer. The houses bore the impress of antiquity, and scarcely a modern erection broke in upon the irregular line of buildings that had served as the dwelling-places of the Manchestrans for long generations previously. Quaint and picturesque were these memorials of former days; built, like so many of the houses in Lancashire and Cheshire, of wood and plaster, wrought in curious diaper-like patterns of black and white, with mullioned and latticed windows, overhanging roofs and gables, and grotesquely-carved hip-knobs, cornices, and pendants, presenting a marked contrast to the more stately, though not more ornate, erections with which the present generation is familiar.

Of these memorials of old Manchester scarcely a remnant has been preserved, the improvements that have been effected during the last half-century having swept away almost every trace. Though the veritable buildings have disappeared, the artist's skill has happily perpetuated the outlines, and made us

familiar with their general characteristics. About the year 1822 was published Jackson's "Views of Manchester Streets," comprising twelve illustrations from drawings by J. Ralston; this work was succeeded in 1825 by a series of thirty-six lithographic views by James. Both these works are now reproduced by the autotype process; and to them have been added eight *fac-similes* of drawings by J. Ralston, from the originals in the possession of Richard Wood, Esq., of Whalley Range, which are now for the first time published, with other plates illustrative of Manchester in bygone days.

It is possible that exception may be taken by some to the rough and unfinished character of these illustrations; but the desire has been to reproduce them in their exact form and original homeliness, without excess or diminution of line or feature. At the time they were produced, the art which Senefelder invented had only lately come into practice; and as these pictures are submitted in their veritable similitude without any adventitious graces, it is believed they may on that account possess an interest as showing the great advance that has been made in artistic lithography since they issued from the press.

It is just a century since the first attempt to improve and widen the thoroughfares of Manchester was made. On the 2nd March, 1775, a meeting was held at that antiquated hostelry the *Bull's Head*, in the Market-place, at which a subscription was commenced for purchasing the buildings necessary for widening the old Mill-gate, St. Mary's-gate, and the passage leading from the Exchange to St. Ann's-square. Ten thousand pounds was the estimated sum required, and by the 25th July in the same year the secretary of the fund was able to announce that £10,771. 3s. 6d. had been contributed by sundry public-spirited individuals connected with the town. Some idea may be formed of the condition of these streets when it is remembered that Market-street, or Marketsted-lane* as it was then called, a narrow, tortuous thoroughfare, as the illustrations show, was thought to be a spacious street, and pronounced to be too wide to require any alteration. The building that gave name to Exchange-street, a view of which appears on the map of Manchester in 1772, was a somewhat

* Sted or stead is here used in the old Anglo-Saxon sense of "place," as it is still retained in our words "home-stead," "farm-stead," &c.; the meaning being obviously Market-*place* lane, or the lane leading from the Market-place. The name is of frequent occurrence in the Court Leet records of the sixteenth century, where it is variously written Market-sted and Market-stid lane: it was subsequently corrupted into the anomalous appellation of Market-street-lane.

heavy-looking structure of classic design, built in 1729 at the cost of Sir Oswald Mosley, then lord of the manor. It occupied the site of the old "Booths," on the opposite side of Market-street to the present Exchange, and served the threefold purpose of an Exchange, a butchers' market, and sessions and manor court-house; it was also used for theatrical performances before the old theatre was built on the site of the present Olivo's-buildings, at the corner of Brown-street and Marsden-street.

Before the opening of Exchange-street in 1776, the only approach to St. Ann's-square, then the fashionable quarter, was, for pedestrians, by a narrow gloomy passage called Acre's court, but more popularly known by the name of Dark Entry, that led beneath the *Eagle and Child* coffee-house, and across an open court in which stood a pump. This coffee-house, with the picturesque group of gabled buildings adjoining it, is represented in No. 37 of James's views, and has been referred to by John Taylor, the Water-Poet, in his "Pennyless Pilgrimage."

I lodgèd at the Eagle and the Child,
Whereat my hostess (a good ancient woman)
Did entertain me with respect not common.

* * * *

So Mistress Saracole,* hostess kind,
And Manchester with thanks I left behind.

The approach to the Square for vehicles was by a covered gateway, shown in the same view, at the further end of which was a cobbler's stall, with a staircase leading to the coffee-house; and here also were the entrances to two other taverns, the *Dog* and the *Goose*.

After the completion of the improvements projected in 1775 no further alterations were attempted for several years, though complaints were frequently made of the narrowness of the streets, and the inconvenience caused by the crowding of them with carts and waggons, which were allowed to remain on market-days, few of the inns having yards attached to them; indeed, little effort seems to have been made to prevent encroachment or obstruction, for, if we may judge from the illustrations, the principal thoroughfare was made the general packing-place of the town.

* In the register of burials at the Collegiate Church the following entry occurs, under date 1628:—

"April 29.—Robarte Soracould, of Manchester, innkeeper," the husband, probably, of "Mistress Saracole."

Eventually, the doom of Market-sted-lane was pronounced. This street had long been inadequate to the convenient carrying on of the vast traffic with which it was continually crowded. To remedy the increasing evil, plans were prepared, and in 1821 an Act of Parliament was obtained to improve and widen it to the extent of twenty-one yards; and at the same time certain other approaches, avenues, and communications opening thereto, namely, the bottom of King-street, Hunter's-lane (the lower end of Cannon-street), Nicholas-croft, Toad-lane (Todd-street), and Toll-lane (the Deansgate end of St. Ann's-street), were also widened; the cost of the improvements being about £200,000. The preamble to the Act sets forth that Market-street, "which is the principal thoroughfare of the town, is very narrow and inconvenient, and is in its present state dangerous for the persons and carriages passing through the same, and the trade and commerce of the said town have been much obstructed and injured, and various serious accidents have occurred, and many lives have been lost in consequence thereof."

It is difficult at the present day to realize what the appearance of this part of the town was before the alterations were made. Market-street was then only a narrow, tortuous lane, with tall, grimy buildings on each side, and so confined in places as hardly to allow space for two carts to pass, or a vehicle to turn round.

The first view in Ralston's series is taken from the lower end of Market-street, and represents the Market-place as it appeared before the alterations; a copy of the original sketch from which it is taken is also given in our fac-similes of Ralston's drawings, and a view from the same point is given in No. 32 of James's work. In this plate a busy yet homely scene meets the eye, the short contracted area with its confined approaches being crowded with stalls, on which are displayed almost every conceivable commodity, whilst carts, carriages, and wheelbarrows contend for space with a motley throng of hucksters and housewives, who seem entangled in inextricable confusion. The first building in the Market-place of which any record has been preserved was the "Booths," a timber structure, in which the town's Portmotes or Boroughreeve's Court and the Courts Leet and Baron of the feudal lords were held, and to which were subsequently added the Petty and Quarter Sessions. For centuries this was the only erection, and it was not unfrequently adorned with the heads of rebels and other criminals. To the "Booths" was

added the old Exchange, which, as already stated, was taken down in 1792, the site being subsequently known by the name of Pennyless-hill, from the number of unemployed people who usually assembled there for hire ; close by was the Cross, which, from the position marked on the plan of Manchester in 1650, occupied a portion of the site of the present fish-market, and contiguous were the pillory and the stocks, which were removed in 1812. Stalls and standings were no doubt erected from time to time, but the "Booths" appears to have been the only building in the Market-place until about the year 1475, when a shop was erected by one of the Traffords. "In the rental of Thomas West, Lord de la Warr," says Hollingworth, "mention is made of John Trafford, Knight, houlding one parcel of wast lying in Manchester, neere to the Booths, upon which onely one shop was then lately builded."

The building with the projecting staircase and railed terrace shown in our view was for many years the printing-office of Mr. Whitworth, and here an early local periodical, *Whitworth's Manchester Gazette*, had its birth December 22, 1730. The name was soon after changed to the *Manchester Magazine*, which continued to be published weekly for nearly twenty years. Mr. Whitworth was succeeded in his business by his son-in-law, Mr. Joseph Harrop, who established the *Mercury* March 3, 1752, a journal that outlived many competitors, and continued its weekly circulation until a short time before the building in which it originated was pulled down, when it became merged in the *Manchester Guardian*, the first number of which appeared Saturday, May 5, 1821. Mr. Harrop filled the office of Postmaster, and for a long series of years the postal business of the town was conducted on his premises. These, with the gabled building adjoining, occupied by Mr. Fawcett, silversmith, were taken down in order to widen the street, which at this point, as will be seen by the vista opening into Market-street, was extremely narrow.

Of the Market-street of yore there are several illustrations : Ralston supplies six different lithographic views, in addition to the original sketches, and there are four plates in James's work. The first view (No. 3) is taken from a point near the entrance to Cross-street, looking towards St. Mary's-gate. On the right is a group of half-timbered buildings, comprising four shops, with the signboard of Mr. Styant, a gun-maker, of some note in his day, placed conspicuously over the door of one. On the other side, in sharp perspective, we have the shop of Mr. Newall, a name that became famous in after-years, Newall's-

buildings, which he erected on the site, having been the home of the Anti-Corn-law League.

Our next illustration (No. 4) is taken from the opposite side of the street, and gives a more detailed representation of Mr. Newall's shop; below it are two quaint-looking structures with projecting gables, and in the distance a glimpse is afforded of the Exchange, the view being continued into St. Mary's-gate. No more picturesque building was to be found in Market-street than the shop of Mr. Hyde (No. 6), a noted cheese and butter merchant, situated a little below the entrance to Wright's-court. The drawing presents us with an excellent specimen of domestic architecture of the late Tudor period, the timber-work both in the main structure and in the projecting oriel being of very elaborate character, and arranged in curious diaper and foliated patterns. Scarcely less ornate is the gable over the shop of Mr. Walker, ironmonger, adjoining, which occupied as nearly as possible the site of the present establishment at the corner of Pall-mall; here the timbers are disposed in geometric patterns, and the cornices and beams appear to have been very elaborately carved. The original sketch for this drawing will be found in No. 56, and a similar view appears in No. 26 of James's series. No. 7 gives a more general view of Market-street from near the corner of the present New Brown-street, looking towards the Exchange. It includes, in addition to the shop of Mr. Hyde, that of Mr. Hemingway, silversmith, and the premises of Mr. Sharpe, who filled the office of Boroughreeve of Manchester in 1819. The original sketch from which the lithograph was made is reproduced in No. 55, and there is also a view by James taken from very nearly the same point, No. 43. In No. 11 the work of demolition appears to have commenced, a heap of *débris* marking the opening leading to the New Market. The low building with "State Lottery Office" inscribed over the windows was occupied by Mr. Joseph Merone, printseller, who continued the same business on very nearly the same spot for a long series of years. Adjoining is a modest-looking tavern, the *Red Lion*, kept at the time by one Mrs. Nancy Knight, who migrated into Salford on the demolition of her house. The large modern structure on the other side comprised the premises of Mr. Wicksted, Mr. Salter, and those of Messrs. Zanetti and Agnew, printsellers, the latter being the founder of the well-known firm of Messrs. Thomas Agnew & Sons.

The last of Ralston's series of views (No. 12) is taken from the corner of Brown-street looking towards Piccadilly, and includes the range of buildings that extended to Spring-gardens, and thence to Fountain-street. Standing a little way back from the main line is a picturesque half-timbered erection with gabled roofs, comprising two shops, one known as Beaumont's eating-house, and the other belonging to Mr. Bennett, who combined with the business of a picture-frame maker that of a filter manufacturer. A better view of this building by the same artist will be found in No. 50. Messrs. D. & P. Jackson, the publishers of Ralston's views, occupied the shop at the corner of Spring-gardens, and a public-house bearing the sign of the *Royal Oak* stood at the opposite corner. The other erections appear to be of comparatively modern date, and possess little interest. On the opposite side of the street a glimpse is caught of the *Swan*, a well-known posting-house in the old stage-coaching days, and in front is characteristically portrayed a busy, bustling throng of travellers, apparently about to take their departure by the London stage.

There are two additional drawings from the pencil of Ralston that do not appear in his published work. No. 51 presents us with a view of the covered gateway, or passage, which half a century ago formed the only approach from Market-street to Cross-street, or Pool-fold, as it was then called. In this building a local celebrity of somewhat eccentric character, Mr. John Hopps, kept a circulating-library for many years. He also carried on the business of a bookseller. It is said that it was his custom, when going away for his summer holidays, to close the shop for several weeks at a time. On one occasion, when ill, he closed the establishment, and affixed to the shutters the following notice :—

I, John Hopp,
 Can't come to my shop,
 Because I, John Hopp, am ill ;
 But I, John Hopp,
 Will come to my shop
 When I, John Hopp, get well.

Mr. Hopps died in 1823, at the advanced age of eighty-three, but the book-selling business, together with the library, remained in his family until 1840. Adjoining the gateway is an antiquated hostelry, the *Pack-horse*, kept, as the sign testifies, by John Frost. A continuation of this building is shown in No. 54 ;

adjoining it, and abutting upon the opening leading to the New Market,* is a gabled erection of three stories, tenanted by Mr. Hayes, hatter, the father of the Rev. John Hayes, who in 1840 was appointed to the incumbency of Harpurhey, near Manchester.

In addition to those already mentioned, there are two views of Market-street in James's series; one, No. 23, taken from the Exchange flags, looking towards Piccadilly, showing on one side the group of buildings at the corner of the Market-place, and on the other the shop of Mr. Shaw, saddler, which stood at the corner of Ducie-place, the site being now covered by the Royal Exchange. The other view, No. 37, is copied from a drawing made by Thomas Barritt, the antiquary, in the latter part of the last century, and represents the block of buildings that were removed in 1776 to form the present approach to St. Ann's-square. This may, in truth, be called the group with many gables; the buildings stand in an in-and-out hap-hazard sort of way, and each tenement, it will be noticed, has an acutely-pointed roof with overhanging barge-boards crowned at the apex with a grotesquely-carved hip-knob. On the right is the bookshop of the Newtons, the resort in former times of the gossips of the town, who, as we learn from the reminiscences of an aged resident, published in the second volume of Harland's "Collectanea," "used to go to know what the bells were ringing for." The shop was kept by two brothers, noted biblioplists, Thomas and William, the sons of Thomas Newton, who kept the old coffee-house adjoining. Another member of the family, John, the uncle of the booksellers, filled at the time the office of parish clerk. William, the younger of the two brothers, married in 1762, the event being thus circumstantially chronicled in the local newspapers of the day:—

"On Tuesday last was married at the Collegiate Church Mr. William Newton, bookseller, to Miss Farren, an agreeable young lady with a handsome fortune."

To this couple was born a son, Thomas, who entered the Grammar School in 1773, and was subsequently admitted to holy orders.

* The New Market stood behind the present Stock-exchange. It was erected in 1781, by Messrs. Chadwick and Ackers, on a plot of land known as Pool-fold and Hyde-park, the name being still preserved in New Market-lane.

The "Old Coffee-house," or *Eagle and Child*, as it was more correctly designated, where Taylor, the "Water Poet," lodged while on his "Pennyless Pilgrimage," we have before referred to. Beneath its ancient roof a good deal of public business was transacted, questions affecting the welfare and prosperity of the town were discussed, and for years the Commissioners in Bankruptcy made it their place of meeting. Under the Old Coffee-house was a passage known as Fox-entry, from the public-house of that sign, where lived also Mr. Fox, tea-dealer, whose son, William Fox, became the head of the firm of Fox, Sharpe, & Eccles, attorneys, of St. Ann's-churchyard, now represented by Messrs. Slater & Heelis. Mr. Fox afterwards quitted the legal profession, and became a banker in Manchester, in partnership with Messrs. Allen & Sedgwick : the firm was afterwards known by the name of Jones, Fox, & Co. ; and subsequently of William Jones, Loyds, & Co. ; Loyd, Entwistle, & Co. ; and now the Manchester and Liverpool District Banking Company. Our illustration preserves the names of other old Manchester residents, one a saddler, bearing the appropriate name of Whip, the father of Samuel Whip, whose name appears in the admission register of the Grammar School under date 1767. Another name perpetuated is that of an opulent drysalter, who was also famed as a liberal and intelligent patron of the arts : William Hardman, a son of John Hardman, who filled the office of Constable of Manchester in 1757, and Borough-reeve in 1765. Mr. Hardman, who resided in the large house in Quay-street, previously occupied by Lady Egerton, the mother of Thomas, first Earl of Wilton, and known in later years as Owen's College, was a man of refined taste, and became the possessor of a collection of paintings, in the purchase of which he is said to have expended from £30,000 to £40,000. He married in 1768 Mary Anne, daughter of Mr. Joshua Lawton, of Dobcross, a wealthy heiress, and by her had two sons ; John, who married Mary, daughter of Mr. Joseph Tipping, of Crumpsall Hall, the representative of an old Manchester family, and Thomas, known in early life by the name of "Antinous," but in later years by the popular *sobriquet* of "the handsome bachelor." Alicia, a sister of William Hardman, is described as having been one of the most celebrated beauties of the day, and her charms, it would seem, inspired the muse of the Rev. J. Haddon Hindley, one of the chaplains of the Collegiate Church, who addressed some verses to her which are published in Wilson's "Miscellanies." To the left of

the saddler's shop is a passage leading to Rushton's punch-house, a friendly rival of John Shaw's. Above this, and extending over some of the other shops, were the coffee and dining-rooms of Mrs. Budworth, in one of which Captain Monsey, of the 29th regiment, and Cornet Hamilton fought a duel with swords after they had been baiting a badger at Mr. Falkner Phillips's, at Badger Hall, March 21, 1783, when Captain Monsey was killed.

Not the least interesting of the views in Ralston's work is that of Mr. White's house in King-street, a stately residence of brick, which occupied the site of the present Town-hall. Charles White, F.R.S., a son of Dr. Thomas White, is justly accounted one of the worthies of Manchester: he was an eminent surgeon and author, long resident in the town, and the co-founder, with Mr. Joseph Bancroft, of the Manchester Infirmary. He was one of the first Vice-presidents of the Literary and Philosophical Society on its origination in 1781, and in the third volume of its "Memoirs" (new series) there is a lengthy biographical notice of him from the pen of Mr. Thomas Henry, F.R.S. After a long life of unremitting exertion and public usefulness, he died, February 20th, 1813, in the eighty-fifth year of his age, and was buried at Ashton-upon-Mersey. Thomas, the eldest of his three sons, who was alike eminent in his day for the practice of surgery, was the father of the late John White, Esq., of Sale Hall, Ashton-upon-Mersey, who was High Sheriff of Cheshire in 1823, and famous for his fox-hunting and equestrian exploits. A view of the house in King-street is given in Casson and Berrey's maps of the town in 1746, 1751, and 1755, and it is there named as Mr. Croxton's. Mr. George Croxton was an opulent merchant of Manchester; in 1743 he purchased the estate of Birch Hall, in Rusholme, from Humphrey Birch, a grandson of the famous parliamentary commander Colonel Birch, a property he sold two years later to Mr. John Dickinson, of Market-street-lane, who in the same year lodged Charles Edward Stuart during his stay in Manchester.

The original Blackfriars-bridge, views of which are given in Nos. 8 and 38, was a temporary erection of wood for foot-passengers only, built in 1761 by a company of London players (those of Drury-lane and Covent-garden combined) for the accommodation of such of the votaries of Thespis as might wish to cross the river to witness their performances in the theatre of the Riding-school in Water-street (now Blackfriars-street), where they had established themselves in opposition to the well-known James Whiteley, who at the time had the manage-

ment of the theatre in Brown-street. Aston thus alludes to the circumstance in his "Metrical Records" :—

In the years seventeen-sixty and sixty-and-one,
The town by the players was well play'd upon ;
Old Whiteley possession had got of the town,
But the two London houses join'd force and came down,
And, no place being vacant that was near to the centre,
They determined in Salford to try their adventure ;
Erected a building, erected a stage,
To act o'er the passions of man and the age ;
And to tempt the Manchestrans, made steps down the ridge,
And over the river threw Blackfriars Bridge.

The bridge remained for more than half a century after their departure, though it was always difficult of access, the approach being by a narrow passage called the Ring-'o-bells entry, leading from Deansgate, and thence by a flight of twenty-nine steps. It was superseded by the present stone bridge, shown in No. 44, which was erected in 1820 at a cost of £9,000, the subscribers being entitled, by the Act of Parliament under which it was built, to re-imburse themselves by a toll, that continued to be exacted from both passengers and vehicles until within the last few years, when the bridge was made free.

Until 1761, the only means of communication between the township of Manchester and that of Salford was by the old or Salford bridge, an ancient erection of three arches, built in the reign of the third Edward. In 1638, Thomas del Bothe, of Barton, a wealthy yeoman, bequeathed by will £30, to be paid in the three years following his death, in equal portions, towards the erection of the bridge, or rather of a chapel upon it, in which prayers were to be offered by grateful wayfarers for the repose of the soul of the founder. This chapel was rebuilt in 1505, but was allowed to fall into decay after the Reformation. Subsequently, and for more than a century, it served the purpose of a dungeon, and was finally removed in 1776, when the bridge was widened. In its original state it was very steep, and so narrow as to be dangerous to foot-passengers, the angular recesses on the piers affording them the only chance of escape in case of meeting a vehicle upon it. After an existence of nearly five hundred years, the venerable pile was indicted at the Quarter Sessions for the Hundred of Salford, October 1836, and pronounced to be insufficient in roadway, footway, and waterway ; and in September of the following year the work of demolition

was commenced, a temporary structure of wood for foot-passengers having in the mean time been erected. Some idea of the rude and primitive manner in which the "Old Bridge" was constructed may be formed from the following announcement, which appeared in the *Manchester Guardian* for March 27, 1839 :—

"On removing the keystones of the arch on the Salford side, the whole of the masonry from the keystone to the centre pier fell over at once into the river, precipitating three or four of the workmen into the water ; but, fortunately, none of them received any more serious injury than a considerable fright and a thorough ducking. On examining the centre pier, it was found to be quite untouched and unshaken, each of the three arches having merely pressed upon or rested against the outer surfaces of the piers and abutments."

The first stone of the present Victoria Bridge, erected upon its site, was laid March 31, 1838, on a bed of sandstone rock, about twelve feet below the surface of the water, by Mr. (now Sir) Elkanah Armitage, Boroughreeve of Salford : the last keystone was fixed by the present Sir Humphrey Trafford, 23rd March, 1839, and the bridge was finally opened to the public June 20, 1839, the second anniversary of Her Majesty's accession. James furnishes us with two views of the Old Bridge. No. 14 is taken from the Salford side of the stream, near Blackfriars, showing the steep sandstone cliffs, on the verge of which are seen the manufactories and dwellings that extend along the line of the Parsonage, with the tower of the Collegiate Church forming a prominent object in the middle distance. The other view, No. 42, is taken from the bend of the river at Hunt's Bank, and shows the unsightly and huddled mass of buildings which occupied the site of the present roadway in front of the Cathedral, and reached down to the very edge of the water. On the extreme left is seen the "Castle" (afterwards the College) inn, which a local poet, Charles Kenworthy, has thus immortalized :—

The "Castle," that long braved the flood,
Where oft was brewed stout ale and good,
A College Inn is seen :
Where frowned the ancient dungeon wall
Rise modern buildings, fair and tall,
And stables, palatine.

Contiguous to the "Castle" was the dungeon, known in its earlier days as the New Fleet, a place that was crowded during the stormy days of Elizabeth's

reign with recusant prisoners, who had been hunted out, with keen rapacity, by an odious swarm of Reformers, who earned a base living by augmenting the miseries of their unfortunate fellow-creatures. The roadway at this point was extremely confined, there being barely room for two carts to pass; the buildings along the riverside were piled step upon step from the water's edge to the churchyard above, which was then approached by a narrow flagged footpath, the only direct way from Strangeways to Smithy-door, vehicles proceeding to Market-street being compelled to go round by way of Long-millgate, Fennel-street, and Hanging-ditch.

Another memento of bygone times is preserved to us in the three views of Salford Cross, which, though differing slightly in detail, are all taken from nearly the same point. Two, Nos. 9 and 10, are from the pencil of Ralston, the third, No. 48, being from that of James. The Cross, a lofty fluted column of the Doric order, resting upon a square base raised above the roadway by a couple of steps, and surmounted by a crown, stood upon the open space of ground in Greengate, nearly opposite the end of Gravel-lane. Conveniently placed at the foot, as shown in one of our illustrations, were the stocks, in which bibulous Britons were wont in former days to meditate upon the evils of intemperance. In Casson and Berrey's map, already referred to, as also in that of Laurent, published in 1793, the Court-house is marked as standing a little above the Cross, and nearer the point of junction with Gravel-lane; but this had disappeared some time before the Cross itself was removed.

John Wesley, in his earlier visits to Lancashire, found the people very difficult to manage, and in Salford he met with a reception more warm than welcome. He preached from the steps of the Cross, when one spirit, more turbulent than the others, threatened to bring out the engine and play upon him. The incident is thus recorded in his "Journal," under date May, 1747:—"I walked straight to Salford Cross. A numberless crowd of people partly ran before, partly followed after me. I thought it best not to sing, but, looking round, asked abruptly, 'Why do you look as if you had never seen me before? Many of you have seen me in the neighbouring church both preaching and administering the sacrament.' I then began. As I was drawing to a conclusion, a big man thrust in with three or four more, and bade them bring out the engine. Our friends desired me to remove into a yard just by, which I did, and concluded in peace."

Though the Cross has vanished, the picturesque group of half-timbered habitations shown in the background still remain, though shorn of many of their more antiquated features. One of them, the "Bull's Head," was in early times, so tradition tells us, the residence of the Allens, an offshoot of the Allens of Rossal, in Lancashire, of whom the most remarkable was the English Cardinal, William Allen, the traitorous apologist of Sir William Stanley's perfidy and treason.

Of the many people who in these days frequent the comfortable parlour of the "*Thatched House*," how few there are who have a thought of the humble hostel from which it took its name. Ralston has preserved the outline in one of his sketches (No. 52), which we have reproduced, but neither he nor James appears to have thought it worth perpetuating in their published series. Though never a political rendezvous like the *Bull's Head*, nor a home of the Muses like the *Sun*, in Long-millgate, the *Thatched* was yet a house of note even in the days of the Georges, being then a favourite resort of the more opulent tradesmen, as well as of the country manufacturers who came into the town on market days. The story is told, though on somewhat doubtful authority, that in the days of the "merry monarch" a thirsty rhymster who had run up a score offered to compromise matters with the landlord by writing a poetical inscription for the sign-board, then being newly painted. The offer was good-humouredly accepted, and the following lines were produced :—

Ye farmer 'neath thatch keeps his stacks fro the raine,
For otherwise would perish his hay and his graine ;
But here we see men (what a contrary set)
Come under the thatch when they wish to get wet.

The landlord failed to see the point of the epigram, and imagining that a reflection was cast upon his patrons, kicked the unlucky poet into the street.

Before the passing of the Improvement Act in 1821, King-street extended only to Police-street, so named from the Police-court being situate there, the only means of communication with Deansgate from this point being by a narrow entry called Hatters'-lane. Some idea of the appearance of this part of the town may be formed from Ralston's sketch No. 53, which shows the lower end of King-street, with the group of buildings blocking the approach to Deansgate, then occupied as warehouse and stables by Messrs. James Holland & Co., who

carried on an extensive business as carriers to Leeds, York, Hull, and other Yorkshire towns.

SMITHY-DOOR.—Old Smithy-door, with its many and varied associations, has passed away. As we write, the last lingering memorial is being dug from its foundation, and soon the place will be nothing but a memory of the past. Few thoroughfares in the town have undergone such mutations of fortune; though the street was narrow, and the buildings stood in close contiguity to each other, it was in its palmy days a place of some pretension, and inhabited by well-to-do people, as shown by the substantial character of their dwellings, and the regard that was paid to architectural effect. In the days of the eighth Harry, when Manchester was constituted a place of sanctuary for transgressors of the law, a privilege the inhabitants little valued, one of the sanctuary houses, as they were called, was erected in Smithy-door, the remains of which were found some years ago, on widening the thoroughfare for the present Victoria-street,—a half-timbered building, with a recessed oriel, apparently intended to receive an altar, and in which was discovered a head of the Virgin carved in wood. Here, too, in after-years, the members of that convivial confraternity, John Shaw's club, found sanctuary, and continued to hold their nocturnal symposia, when compelled by the ruthless hand of the improver to forsake their antiquated home in the Market-place.

Our first view (No. 15) represents the quaint and interesting relic of bygone days which stood at the higher end of old Smithy-door, the *Vintners' Arms*, or Sandiford's Vaults, by which latter name it was more popularly known. Fully three centuries must have elapsed since its erection; during that time the fabric had been subjected to frequent renovations, and families of lowly lineage had taken the place of its once aristocratic occupants; yet, even in its declining years, it maintained a smart and jaunty air, as if anxious to make the most of appearances, and to forget its fallen grandeur. The building was singularly irregular and picturesque in outline, and though presenting many incongruities where the hand of the "improver" had been mischievously busy, it yet retained many of its more ancient characteristics to the last. The principal feature was a curious timber turret, or lantern, rising from between the two front gables, square, and surmounted by a low pyramidal roof. This lantern, which appeared to have been erected subsequent to the main structure, formed a small room, and from its elevated position must in earlier days have afforded a pleasant prospect

of the surrounding neighbourhood. Of the early history of this old house comparatively little is known. Mr. Procter, who has laboured so lovingly in the field of local antiquities, has, however, succeeded in rescuing a few records from oblivion. Basing his conjecture on an entry in Mrs. Raffald's Directory for 1773, he supposes it at that time to have been the residence of John Syddal, whose social status is defined by the post-fix "gentleman," probably one of the Syddals of Slade, in Rusholme. Be that as it may, we have certain evidence that in 1797 the old tenement had passed into the possession of Messrs. Saunders, Arrowsmith, & Co., who carried on the business of fustian manufacturers and importers of Irish linen; seven years later it was in the occupation of Mr. Willmott, wine and spirit merchant, and it was then converted into a vault. The Willmotts had been public caterers in the town for many years previously, one of them having been the proprietor of "Rushton's" coffee-house, already referred to. In this family the old edifice continued for a period of forty years, when Mr. James Sandiford succeeded to the business, the Willmotts, however, retaining the ownership of the property. Subsequently it became known as "Deakin's Vaults," and that designation it preserved until it was taken down in this present year of grace, to make room for the stately pile about to be erected by the Corporation Property Company. When old Market-street-lane was widened, the materials of one of the most picturesque buildings were removed and re-erected in what was then a pleasant suburb of the town. The demolition of this interesting relic of the past may be a gain to the community at large, but we cannot help regretting that some loving hand was not found to follow the example of fifty years ago, and preserve elsewhere one of the most picturesque examples of domestic architecture of which Manchester could boast.

No. 46 presents us with a view of Smithy-door looking towards Cateaton-street, and the steep incline known as Smithy-door-bank, leading down to the Old Bridge; and we have also a cleverly-executed sketch from the same point in the drawing by the late Mr. John E. Grogan, an architect of considerable note in Manchester. On one side we have a huge gloomy-looking pile, in which the melancholy aspects of dilapidation and decay are strikingly manifest; and on the other a picturesque grouping of gabled structures with projecting oriels and overhanging chambers, lighted by windows running the entire length. Tradition says that in days of yore one of these houses was the abode of that

"resolved papist" but tolerant and generous-hearted divine "Master George Collyer," when recalled by Queen Mary, after he had been deprived of his wardenship by Edward the Sixth, and dispossessed of his collegiate residence, his office, and emoluments. Here too, in January 1719, the first newspaper which graced the annals of Manchester, the *Weekly Journal*, was ushered into existence, having been, as the opening page sets forth, "printed by Roger Adams at the lower end of Smithy-door." Adams, who was a stout "Church-and-King man," subsequently removed to Chester, in which ancient city, until his death, he continued the *Chester Courant*. Contemporary with him in Manchester were the Whitworths, three generations of which family were located in Smithy-door,—Zachary, a bookseller, who died in 1697; John, who died in 1727; and Robert, who removed to the Market-place, and, as we have already stated, published successively *Whitworth's Manchester Gazette* and the *Manchester Magazine*, newspapers advocating opposite views to those of the *Weekly Journal*.

The most cherished, we had almost said the only remaining, monument of antiquity is the secluded building known as Humphrey Chetham's Hospital and Library, once the baronial retreat and subsequently the abode of the collegiate body. The memories of this last lingering relic of ancient Manchester are manifold. Whitaker, the historian, has laboured sedulously, though unsuccessfully, to prove that it was originally the prætorium or summer camp of the Roman legionaries at the time they had established themselves in the fort at Castle-field, as if the soldiers of the Cæsars, accustomed as they were to the climate of the sunny south, required a cooling place in Britain. Certain it is that this was the home of the feudatory lords of Manchester until 1421, when its noble and reverend owner, Thomas de la Warr, the pious priest-lord, as he has been called, gave it as a residence for the warden and fellows of the church he had caused to be collegiate, and in their possession it remained for a century and a quarter. The College—for by that name it is still known—escaped the trying period of the dissolution of religious houses, but in the first year of King Edward the Sixth the collegiate body was dissolved, and their dwelling-place demised by the Crown to Edward Stanley, third Earl of Derby. Just one hundred years later the Stanleys were in turn dispossessed; the Cromwellian Committee of Sequestration seized the building, and used it partly as a magazine for the ammunition of the Parliamentary forces, and partly as a prison for the confinement of Royalist delinquents. In his lifetime Hum-

phrey Chetham had expressed a desire to obtain possession of the College for the benevolent and praiseworthy institution he contemplated founding, and, in accordance with the tenor of his will, his executors effected the purchase of the building in 1654, since when it has been used for the purposes of the Blue-coat Hospital and as a Library—the first really free public library established in England. The building stands upon the edge of a precipitous sandstone rock close to the confluence of the Irk and the Irwell. The appearance from the north side is very picturesque, and it requires little but its former battlements to transport the mind back to the days of the Henrys and the Edwards; nor is the impression removed on entering the spacious but silent courtyard, for, as he passes beneath the gateway, the visitor at once leaves the noise, the hurry, and the bustle of a city immersed in trade and commerce, for peaceful solitude and seclusion; so little, indeed, does the place seem altered since the days

“When priests their orisons and vespers sung,”

that imagination might readily recall the ancient occupants peopling the panelled chambers, the gloomy corridors, and shadowy recesses with the stately lords or severe and formal ecclesiastics of the period when it was erected.

James presents us with two views. No. 28 is taken from the north bank of the Irk, and shows the long line of building with its low-browed roof, its narrow mullioned windows, its gabled projections, and tall clustering chimney-shafts. No. 17 represents the antique arched gateway leading to the courtyard: on the right of the gateway we get a view of the old Grammar School, erected in 1776-7 on the site of Hugh Oldham's original foundation, a gloomy, smoke-begrimed building of brick, without any pretensions to architectural excellence. In the front gable will be noticed an oval medallion, on which is carved, in relief, an owl—the bird of wisdom,—the crest of the good bishop who founded the school, and who took as his motto *Sapere aude*. The cottage on the extreme right of the picture, with the oaken branch (the ensign of a Church-and-King man) placed over the doorway, was for many years the abode of that eccentric divine but profound scholar the Rev. Joshua Brookes, who for thirty-one years filled the office of chaplain of the “old” church.

The black-and-white gabled structure represented in No. 22 was the residence of the High Master of the Free Grammar School. It stood in the Long

Mill-gate, and was taken down in 1835, the site being now occupied by the new school buildings.

Nearly opposite to the School-house stood, until within the last year or two, a cluster of dilapidated dwellings represented in No. 35, which tradition affirms to have been the habitations of the first colony of Flemish weavers, whom the emissaries of Edward the Third induced to settle in this country, tempted, as quaint old Fuller tells us, by the hope of mating with the "English beauties." They brought with them their craft and mystery, and thus laid the foundation for that manufacturing industry which has raised Manchester to such a pre-eminence in the commercial world. Were it not for spoiling so pretty a story, we might venture a doubt as to the foundation on which the tradition rests, for a cursory glance almost forces us to the conclusion that these buildings are of a date long subsequent to that assigned them.

Deansgate, the most ancient of all our public thoroughfares—a roadway that dates from the time of Tarquin and the doings of the Arthurian knights, and which has been trod successively by Saxon, Dane, and Norman, was entirely omitted in Ralston's delineations of Old Manchester, and has furnished only two subjects for the pencil of James. The first of them (No. 18) presents us with a view of the tottering pile which formerly stood at the lower end of Deansgate, between Shepherds-court—"Shepp-des Court" as it was called two centuries and a half ago—and Smithy-door-bank. In early days it had been the abode of gentility, for at one time this was accounted the fashionable quarter; and pleasantly must the houses then have been situated, with their gardens and pleasure-grounds reaching down to the river's brink; but in later days, and up to the time of its demolition, the building was occupied as a tavern, and bore the sign of the *Woolpack*. Contiguous to the old tenement was another dwelling of equal antiquity, that in the early part of last century passed into the possession of that accomplished scholar and critic Robert Thyer, when he took to wife the winsome widow of John, son of Peter Leigh, of the West Hall, in Cheshire, the great grandfather of the present Officer of Health for Manchester.

In the old house two or three doors below the *Woolpack*, and nearer Smithy-door-bank, was born, on July 2, 1789, one who in after-years attained to considerable eminence in his native town, Thomas Sowler, the founder of the widely-circulating and influential journal that for more than half a century has been the leading organ of the Conservative party in the North of

England, the *Manchester Courier*. Mr. Sowler died on November 18, 1857, at the ripe age of sixty-eight. Through life he had been a man of consistent principle, sterling integrity, and kindly, social feeling. His biographer has described him as "one of the few remaining links which connected the new generation in Manchester with the old, with the pupils of Lawson, with the members of the Pitt Club, with the more homely but perhaps not less enjoyable days when mayor and corporation were in the womb of time, when the 'boroughreeve' was a reverential title, and the office of churchwarden remained intact 'in full-blown dignity.'"

The other view (No. 29) is taken from near the end of St. Ann's-street, and preserves the features of another of the mouldering old houses of which the Deansgate of bygone days was mainly comprised. This building, which abutted upon the *Golden Lion* (a house that has itself been rebuilt, and is now known as the *Regent Hotel*), was taken down half a century ago for the widening of the present St. Mary's-street, and a portion of the site is now occupied by the *Three Arrows*.

In the work of transformation that has been going on during the last few years, nearly all the old landmarks of this ancient highway have disappeared, and the few that remain are in the midst of surroundings entirely out of character with their antiquated features. Until very recently, Deansgate was only a narrow and inconveniently-crowded thoroughfare. By the spirit of modern enterprise it has become transformed into one of the most spacious as well as one of the handsomest streets in the kingdom, rivalling even Regent-street itself in the imposing character of its buildings.

In Nos. 30 and 33 our artist takes us further afield. The first of these is a drawing of the picturesque group of cottages which until about a quarter of a century back stood on the easterly side of the Lower Broughton-road, near the Priory, and familiarly known as Broughton-spout. No. 33 is an erection dating apparently from the Jacobean era, when, owing to the decay of our northern forests, timber was being gradually discarded, and brick and stone had begun to take its place as the chief materials in the construction of domestic buildings. The view represents an old house that formerly existed at Cross-lane, Salford; in its outward aspect the building presents a marked contrast to those previously noticed, the walls being entirely of brick, arranged in places in lozenge-shaped patterns, with windows divided into separate lights by stone mullions.

When the drawing was made railways were undreamt of, and what is now a thickly-populated district was a picturesque suburb of Manchester.

In Nos. 20 and 34 we have two views of the antiquated cluster of dwellings and miscellaneous structures that formerly stood upon the edge of the rock and partly overhung the Irwell at the point near where the iron bridge connects Strangeways with Greengate, Salford; they were taken down about the year 1817, when the bridge which preceded the present structure was erected.

St. Augustine's Chapel, Granby-row, a view of which is given in No. 16, is a building of comparatively modern date, and can hardly therefore claim to rank among the memorials of ancient Manchester. It was erected in 1820 for the use of the Roman Catholic body, at a cost, it is said, of £10,000, the architect being Mr. John Palmer, the author of the "Siege of Manchester," and the architect of the extensive restorations in the fabric of the "old church," which were commenced in 1814, and continued with slight intermissions only until 1823. Within a few days of the opening of the chapel, the remains of the Rev. Rowland Broomhead, who for forty years had laboured as a Catholic priest in Manchester, were consigned to the vaulted cemetery.

With the exception of the two views of Salford Cross, Ralston's drawings were limited to buildings within the town of Manchester. The subjects of James's views were of a more miscellaneous character, and extended over a wider area, embracing, in addition to those we have already described, twelve illustrations of old halls and manor-houses in the adjoining districts, the greater portion of which have now ceased to have an existence. To fully describe these antiquated residences in the limited space at our disposal would be impossible; we must therefore be content with the most meagre notice of them.

Of Garratt Hall (No. 13) not a vestige remains. Fifty years ago, when James's drawing was made, the district in which it was situate formed a pleasant outskirt of the town; now it is crowded with manufactories, and the surrounding atmosphere is dense with the murky vapours arising therefrom. The picturesque old mansion stood on the left bank of the Medlock, close to the point at which Brook-street, then called Garratt-road, crosses it, and like many other of the old halls of Lancashire, was built of timber and plaster, with deep projecting bays, gabled roofs, and tall clustering chimneys. At an early date it was the residence of a branch of the old local family of the Traffords, and in the reign of Henry the Seventh was in the occupation of George

Trafford and his wife Margaret. In the statutes appended to the foundation charter of the Free Grammar-school, dated 16 Henry VIII., it is directed that the scholars shall say daily the Litany, with the responses and supplications following, "for the sawles of George Traford of the Garret and Margarett his wif, then and then next imydiatey insuying, when and what tyme it shall please God Almighty, of his mey and gce, to call for the said George and Margarett, or auther of them ;" from which it may be inferred that they were benefactors of Bishop Oldham's school. Ralph Trafford, the last of the line who made Garratt his abode, died in 1555 or 1556, after which the hall passed into the possession of the Gerards, who sold it in 1596 to Oswald Mosley, of Hough End, a brother of Sir Nicholas Mosley, Knt., Lord Mayor of London, who in the same year purchased the manor of Manchester. Samuel Mosley, who succeeded as heir to his father Oswald, alienated the estate. In the early part of the last century the house was in the possession of Thomas Mynshull, of Chorlton Hall, a representative of the Mynshulls of Wistaston, in Cheshire, and a kinsman of Elizabeth Mynshull, the third wife of England's great epic poet, John Milton. In 1769, Barbara, the widow of Thomas Mynshull, conveyed the property in marriage to a second husband, Roger Aytoun, of Inchdarney, in the county of Fife, a cornet in the Marquis of Lothian's regiment of dragoons, and a gentleman whose reckless and improvident habits had then acquired for him the cognomen of "Spanking Roger." The story of the marriage is not without an element of romance. It is related that Madam Mynshull, then a widow of sixty-five, having been present at a parade of Lothian's dragoons in St. Ann's-square, was charmed by the appearance of the dashing young cornet, who is described as being a fine handsome fellow, six feet four inches in height, and, in short, fell in love with him ; a dinner at Chorlton Hall to the officers of the regiment followed, and in the end "Spanking Roger" became the husband of Thomas Mynshull's widow, and the owner of his extensive estates; including Chorlton Hall, Garratt Hall, and Hough Hall, in Moston, with the lands in the neighbourhood of Portland-street—then called Garratt-lane—which still preserve the memories of other days in the names of Mynshull-street, Aytoun-street, and Chorlton-street. The match proved a disastrous one, for within a week of his marriage the spendthrift cornet deserted his wife ; the large property he had acquired with her was rapidly dissipated to supply his extravagance, and in 1774, Garratt, with Chorlton and Hough Halls, was disposed of.

Subsequently the old hall was divided into several tenements, and having fallen into decay, was taken down about thirty years ago.

Crumpsall Hall, of which two views are given (Nos. 19 and 27), has an especial interest, as being the birthplace of one of Manchester's worthiest sons, Humphrey Chetham, the founder of the hospital and library which bears his name. The Chethams were an offshoot of the family of the same name living at Nuthurst, on the northern confines of Manchester, and are supposed to have settled at Crumpsall sometime during the reign of Henry the Eighth, the founder of the line being Edward Chetham, the great-grandfather of Humphrey, who was born here in 1580. Humphrey's eldest brother, James, succeeded to the property, which continued in the possession of his descendants for two or three generations, when it passed to the Barlows, one of whom was residing here in the last century. The house, a picturesque timber building, with gabled roof and projecting windows, was situated about two hundred yards from the coach-office at Cheetham-hill, near the junction of Humphrey-street with Crescent-road, and was taken down about the year 1825. In its demolition a secret staircase was discovered in the kitchen gable, leading to a small chamber in the roof, supposed to have been used as a hiding-place in unsettled times, and during periods of religious persecution.

Hulme Hall, which has furnished two subjects for Mr. James's pencil, was in its palmy days, before it had been allowed to fall into a state of dilapidation, one of the best specimens of domestic architecture to be found in the neighbourhood of Manchester. It was a large quadrangular building of wood and plaster, and occupied an elevated position near the edge of the sandstone rock on the left bank of the Irwell. As early as the reign of Henry the Second the manor-house of Hulme was in the occupation of a family of the same name. In the reign of Henry the Sixth it had passed into the possession of the Prestwiches, a branch of the old family of Prestwich of Prestwich, and in 1434 Ralph de Prestwych granted it to Henry de Byrom, in whose possession, however, it only remained five years, the same Henry reconveying it in 1439 to the said Ralph. In the days of the virgin queen it was owned by Edmund Prestwych, who had the honour of receiving a missive from Elizabeth requiring him to furnish the sum of £50 as a "voluntary contribution" to the necessities of the State. The house continued in the same family until after the troublous times of Charles the First, when Thomas Prestwich, who had become impoverished

by fines and sequestrations during the Civil wars, mortgaged the old ancestral home in 1654 to Nicholas Mosley of Ancoats, whose brother, Sir Edward Mosley, Knt., became the owner by purchase in 1660. In 1685, his daughter and heiress, Ann Mosley, the founder of St. Ann's Church, conveyed the estate in marriage to Sir John Bland, of Kippax-park, in Yorkshire, and their descendant, Sir John Bland, sold it in 1751 to George, son of Gamaliel Lloyd, of Manchester, the grandfather of Mary Anne Lloyd, who became the wife of the late Rev. Cecil Daniel Wray, Canon of Manchester. In 1764 the manor and mansion were purchased from George Lloyd by the Duke of Bridgewater, whose trustees pulled down the old hall to make room for buildings in connection with the Bridgewater Canal. Hulme Hall forms the scene of Mr. Harrison Ainsworth's earliest romance, "Sir John Chiverton," a story of the days of chivalry. Tradition states that the former owner, Thomas Prestwich, was induced by his mother, the Dowager Lady Prestwich, to make large pecuniary sacrifices in the cause of Charles the First by the assurance that she had a large amount of concealed treasure wherewith to repay the expenditure. It was currently supposed that the treasure was hidden in the hall or its immediate vicinity, and tradition taking up the story, affirmed that it was protected by unhallowed charms, that could only be dissolved by a spell, the secret of which was in the keeping of Lady Prestwich. Unfortunately for her son, the old lady was seized with apoplexy, and dying speechless, the secret was never discovered. Thomas Prestwich, in acknowledgment of his services to the royal cause, and as a solace for the losses he had sustained, was created a baronet. The title appears to have expired with him, though so recently as 1795 it was assumed by John Prestwich, who claimed to be a direct descendant. This person, writing in 1793 to Thomas Barrett, the antiquary, who had made some inquiries respecting his genealogy, says :—"As to my pedigree, which you desire me to furnish you with, I shall inform you that it stands in need of repairs, as it is almost worn out with age! insomuch that it wants the riches or lands that formerly were attached to it, and which are now much wanted to mend it: without these all is vanity."

Blackley Hall (No. 25), like the other of the old mansions we have named, has disappeared. At an early date it belonged to the Byrons, ancestors of the poet-lord, one of whom, Sir John Byron, sold the estate in 1615, when it became the property of the Asshetons of Middleton, who in 1636 sold it

to the Leghs of Lyme, and in their possession it continued until the early part of the present century, when the estate was divided and sold in lots, William Grant, immortalized by Dickens as one of the Cheeryble Brothers, becoming the owner of the Hall. The building would appear to have been erected at two distinct periods, one portion being of timber and plaster, and the other, of later date, being of brick, with mullioned windows and dressings of stone.

Of the early history of Ancoats Hall, a view of which is given in No. 31, comparatively little is known. Whitaker, the historian, argues, though upon slender testimony, that there was a house here in Saxon times. In the reign of Henry the Eighth the estate was held from the De la Warrs, lords of Manchester, by Sir Edmond Trafford of Trafford, Knt., whose eldest son, Edmond, married Mary, sister of Queen Katherine Howard ; and thus brought the Traffords in close alliance with the Crown. From this old Lancashire family Ancoats passed to the Byrons of Clayton, who were afterwards ennobled for their services in the cause of Charles the First, by the title of Barons Byron of Rochdale. The Byrons held possession only for a comparatively short period, and in 1609 sold the Hall for £250 to Oswald Mosley, ancestor of the present Sir Tonman Mosley, Bart. ; and in his heirs it continued for several generations. The chief historical interest arises from the fact that the house is said to have afforded shelter to Prince Charles Edward, the Young Pretender, when he visited the North of England previous to his landing in Scotland in 1745. This visit is not recorded in the local histories, but it is said that, on the Prince entering Manchester at the head of the Scottish army, he was recognized as having been a guest at Ancoats in the previous year. Whether the story is true or not, it is certain that Sir Oswald Mosley, the then owner of Ancoats, was a staunch supporter of the Stuart cause. The half-timbered structure shown in James's view was taken down some years ago, and rebuilt in the Tudor Gothic style, at the cost of the then owner, George Murray, Esq.; the mansion has since been bought by the Midland Railway Company, and in all probability will shortly be demolished by that hungry and still much-devouring line.

There are few families that have become more wide-spread than the Radcliffes. Taking their name from Radcliffe, or the Red-cliff, on the banks of the Irwell, near Bury, where they were located anterior to the reign of Henry the Second, they have in various reigns filled some of the highest offices in the

kingdom, and spread into many flourishing branches; as the Radcliffes of Ordsall, Foxdenton, Smithells, Wimmorley, Chadderton, Manchester, Todmorden, and Mellor, and have been ennobled by the several titles of Barons Fitzwalter, Earls of Sussex, and Earls of Derwentwater. Sir John Radcliffe, a younger son of Richard Radcliffe, of Radcliff Tower, was seated at Ordsall in 1302, and was elected a Knight of the Shire 14 Edward III. (1340-41). He married Jennet, or Johanna, daughter of Sir Robert Holland, and sister of Thomas, Earl of Kent, the husband of Joan Plantagenet, better known as "The Fair Maid of Kent," who afterwards became the wife of Edward the Black Prince; and his descendants continued at Ordsall for more than three centuries and a half, the last of the race who resided there being Sir Alexander Radcliffe, the father of John Radcliffe, of Attilborough, who died at Stoke about the year 1669, when the Ordsall line became extinct, and the estate passed by purchase into other hands.

In its palmy days, when the Radcliffes held sway, Ordsall might be fairly accounted as one of the "Stately Homes" of England, and with its encircling moat, its pendent drawbridge, and stern portal, it furnished a fine example of domestic architecture. Though now shorn of its original dimensions, as well as of much of its ancient splendour, it still retains many of its more ancient features, conveying to the mind an idea of the Manor-house as it existed in the stormy times when York and Lancaster contended for the crown. The moat has long since been filled up, and the drawbridge has no longer an existence; but the edifice still maintains an imposing appearance, though only two sides of the quadrangle still remain, the old courtyard being now a spacious grass-grown lawn. In the interior, the great hall, with its massive clustered columns of timber, its moulded arches, now, alas! hidden from view by intervening floors, and its crenelated tie-beams, presents a fine example of mediæval work; and the "Star-chamber," as it is called, with its "storied windows," and peculiarly-fashioned oriel, is another apartment well worthy of careful examination.

The scene of one of Ainsworth's most popular romances, "Guy Fawkes," is laid at Ordsall, though it is hardly necessary to say that the arch-conspirator was never a visitor there, nor is there any ground for connecting the Radcliffes with his plot. After the house had ceased to be occupied by the Radcliffes, it was divided into tenements and let to humbler occupants, who appear to have attached small import to the interest derived

from antiquity, their chief care being to keep the roof over their heads. The building is now owned by Lord Egerton of Tatton, and being one of the very few old mansions now remaining in the neighbourhood of Manchester, it may be hoped that it will be kept from further decay and preserved as a relic of times that are happily gone by. A view of the principal front of the Hall, showing its advanced bays, its overhanging gables, and huge columnar chimneys, is shown in plate No. 36.

The old Rectory-house at Prestwich, Deyne Hall as it was sometimes called, a view of which is given in No. 39, was a large wood and timber building of considerable antiquity, that derived its name from the dene or deyne, a deep clough or dingle at the rear. It had an existence as early as 1484, when Ralph Langley, afterwards warden of Manchester, a scion of the Langleys of Agecroft, was parson of Prestwich. In 1644, when Presbyterianism had gained the ascendancy, the Rectory-house was attacked by the Parliament party and a portion of it demolished, the rector, the Rev. Isaac Allen, being himself seized and removed to Manchester, where he suffered a term of imprisonment. One of the rectors who resided here at a subsequent date was the Rev. John Lake, afterwards Bishop of Chichester, one of the famous seven bishops who resisted the designs of James the Second when attempting to re-introduce Popery in England, and who was committed to the Tower by that misguided monarch for his courage in opposing the mandate of the Crown, when that authority sought to overstep the limits of the Constitution. In 1840 the interesting old pile was taken down by the then rector, the Rev. Thomas Blackburne, when the present structure, a building in the Tudor Gothic style, was erected on its site.

Trafford Hall (No. 41) has little of antiquity to boast of, the present structure being a modern erection of freestone, with a semicircular front divided by columns; attached to the building, however, are a few brick gables, the remains of an earlier edifice. The Traffords, who are lords of Barton and Stretford, have been located here since the days of Randulphus de Trafford, living in the reign of Edward the Confessor, who was lord of Trafford, and whose lands passed uninterruptedly in the male line for eight centuries. The present owner is Sir Humphrey de Trafford, Bart., a grandson of John Trafford of Croston, Esq., who became possessed of the Trafford estates on the death of his kinsman, Humphrey de Trafford, in 1779.

If Crumpsall claims the honour of giving birth to Humphrey Chetham, Turton Tower (No. 45) deserves to be remembered as having been, for many years, the home of that benevolent "worthy." The tower is a fine old castellated building of stone, with a half-timbered dwelling attached, and continues to the present day in excellent preservation, every care being taken to protect it from tasteless innovations. Tradition says that the tower was built in 1596 by John Orrell, a representative of the knightly family of that name, and that the cost was so great as to have permanently impoverished him. Eventually, in 1628, it was sold for the sum of £3,000 to Humphrey Chetham, and here he continued to reside until his death in 1653. After his decease, Turton was held successively by his heirs, Humphrey, Samuel, and Edward Chetham; and Ann, one of the co-heiresses of the last-named, conveyed it in marriage to the Blands, from whom it again passed by distaff to the Greens. It is now owned by James Kay, Esq.

Broughton Hall (No. 47) was formerly a seat of the Stanleys, a family claiming descent from the Earls of Derby, the founder being Henry Stanley, a natural son of Henry, fourth Earl of Derby, by Jane Halsall, of Knowsley, who had the manor of Broughton assigned to him by his father, with permission to adopt the name. Ferdinando, son and heir of Henry Stanley, was a steady supporter of the royalist cause during the Civil Wars, and in 1646 compounded for his estates by the payment of £150, an impost the king was too powerless to resist on behalf of his friends. After the Restoration he was appointed a commissioner for the county of Lancaster to assist in carrying out the provisions of an Act passed 29 Charles II., which imposed a tax upon the country "for the speedy building thirty ships of warr." The estate, which had become greatly impaired during the troublous times of the Commonwealth, passed, in 1699, into the hands of George Chetham, who, in 1706, built the present structure on the site of the old hall. His son James dying without issue, the property passed to his cousin Edward Chetham, of Smedley and Castleton, the last male descendant of the family, who died unmarried in 1768, when the manor of Broughton descended to his younger sister and coheirress Mary, wife of Samuel Clowes, of Chaddock; the fourth in direct descent from whom, Samuel William Legh Clowes, M.P. for North Leicestershire, is the present owner.

The old house shown in No. 60 was, a century ago, the town residence of

the Dickensons, a family that had accumulated considerable property in trade, and it derives interest from the circumstance that within its walls the Pretender was lodged and entertained on the occasion of his visit to Manchester in 1745, by Mr. John Dickenson, the then owner; and in honour of that event it was afterwards known as the "Palace." The house fronted to Market-street, and was afterwards converted into a tavern called the "Palace Inn." Subsequently it was pulled down, and a pile of warehouses erected on the site, the name being still preserved in "Palace-buildings" and Palace-street." The year in which he entertained the Prince, Mr. Dickenson became the purchaser of the Birch Hall estate in Rusholme; and he removed to his villa there the bed on which it is said the Prince slept. It remained at Birch for about a century, and was sold, on the death of Miss Dickenson, a few years ago. Mr. Dickenson's grandson, who inherited the family estates, married Mary, daughter of the Hon. Charles Hamilton, eldest son of Lord Archibald Hamilton, and grandson of William, Duke of Hamilton, by whom he had an only daughter, Louisa Frances Mary Dickenson, who conveyed the property in marriage to General Sir William Anson, Bart., K.C.B.; and by him she had, with other issue, Sir John William Hamilton Anson, Bart., who was unfortunately killed in the railway accident at Wigan in 1874, and the Venerable George Henry Greville Anson, the present Rector of Birch, and Archdeacon of Manchester.

In plate No. 21 we have drawings of three interesting relics found on the south side of the Roman station at Castle-field during the excavations that were being made there some years ago, and which some antiquaries, though with doubtful probability, have conjectured to have been the site of the St. Michael's Church mentioned in the Domesday Survey. The first figure represents a human face perfectly beardless, with the hair turned back, and wearing a kind of covering or cap upon the head. It is difficult, if not impossible, to say what purpose this carving could have served, though it evidently belonged to some building of very early date. The second figure represents a female arrayed in a robe with a cap on her head; the fore-arms are placed across the front part of the waist. The third figure was discovered in the same locality in 1821: it represents a man cross-legged; the elbow of the left arm rests upon a battleaxe while giving support to the head, which is covered with what seems to be a helmet, the body being habited in a surcoat or tunic.

The other illustrations in the volume are (No. 57) a plan of Manchester as it was in 1747, and (No. 58) a plan of Market-street, showing the width of the street, and the properties held by different owners before the alterations effected under the Improvement Act of 1821.

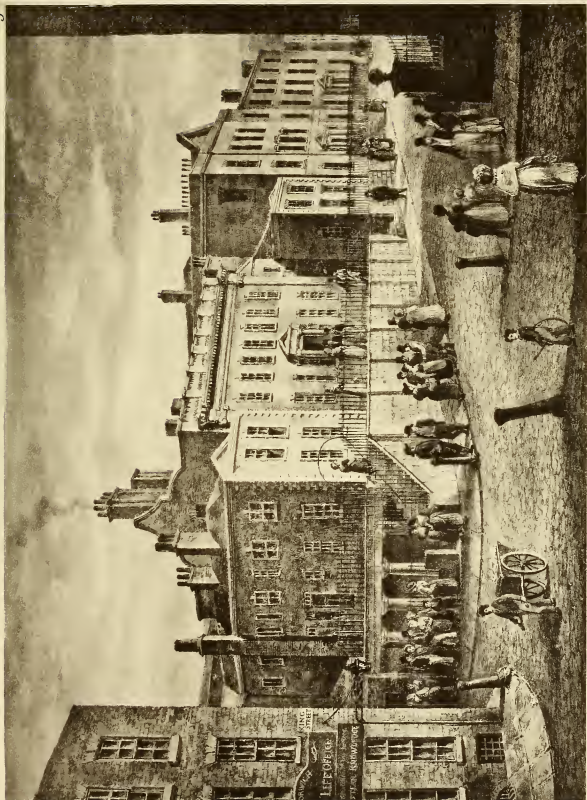
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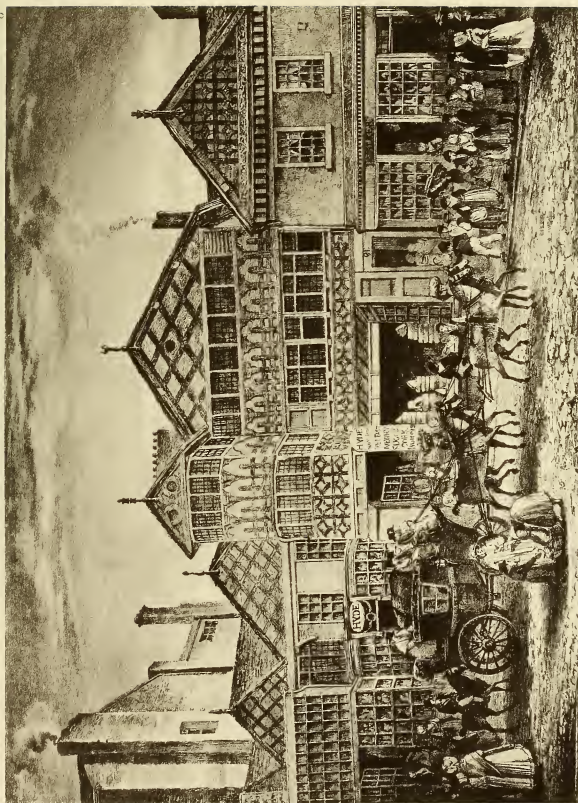






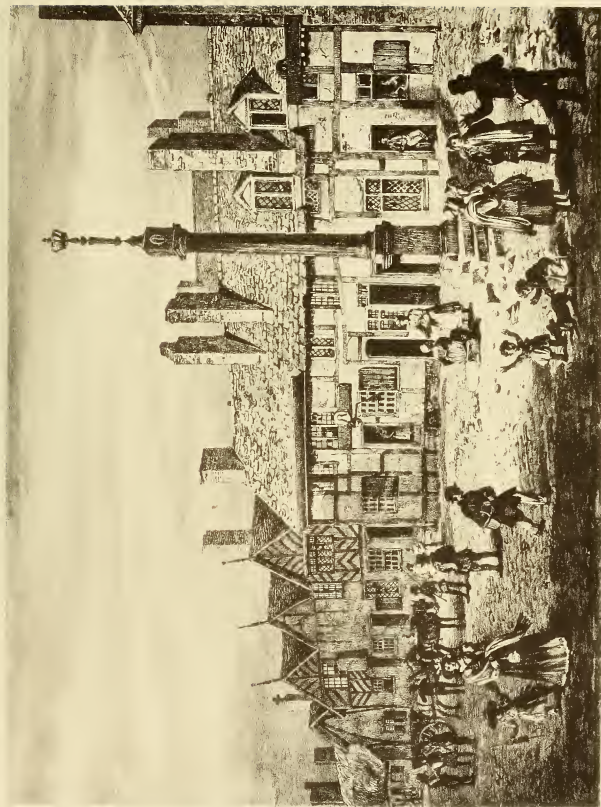


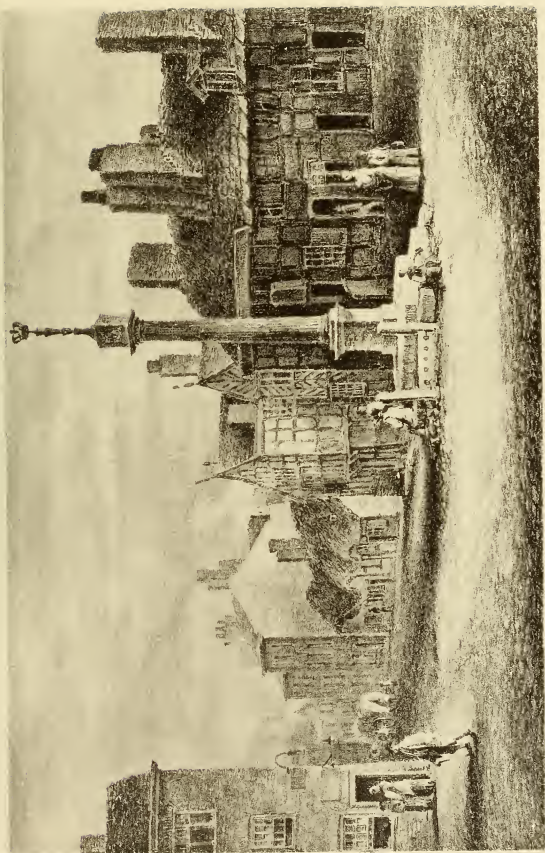


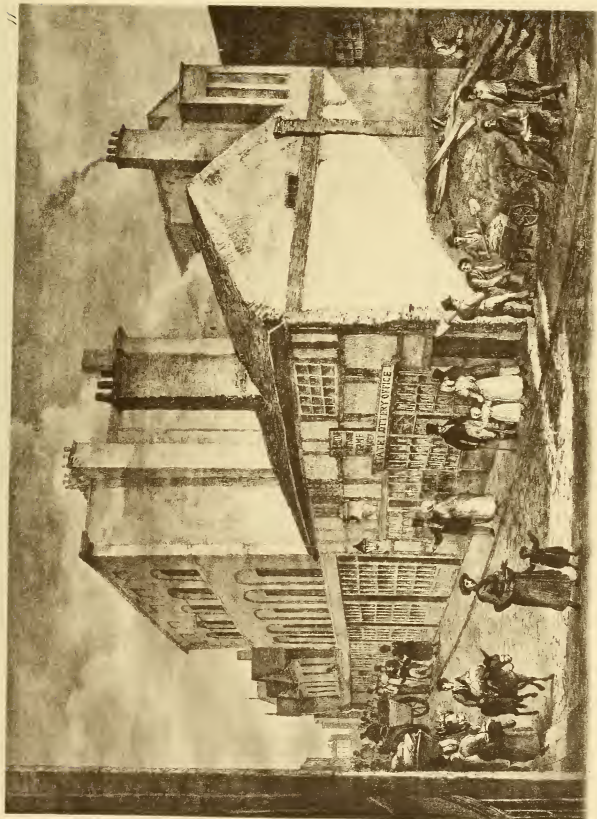




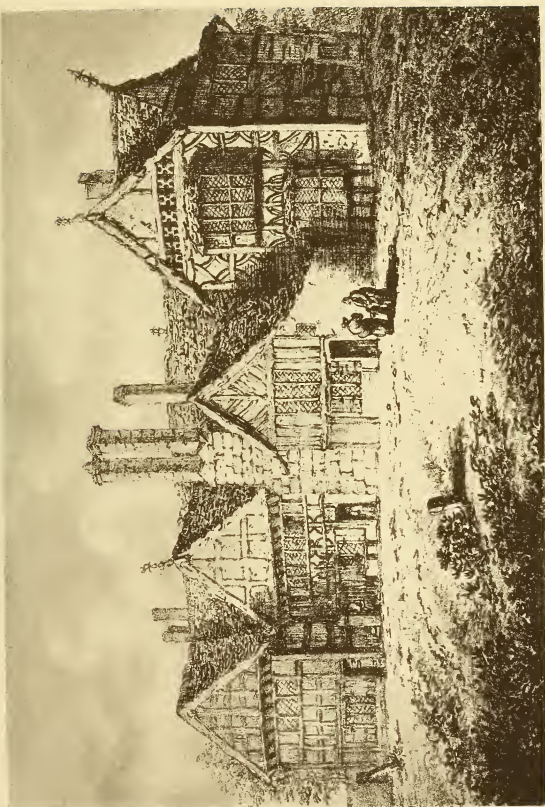




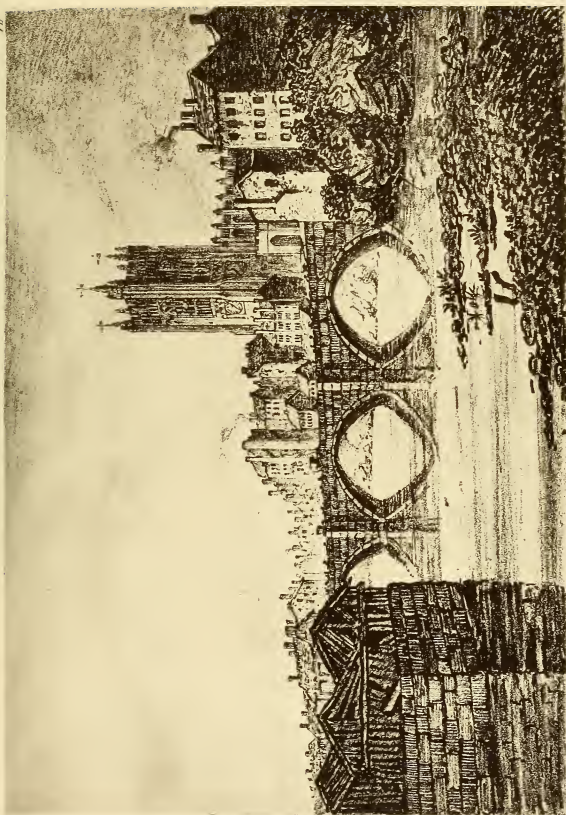


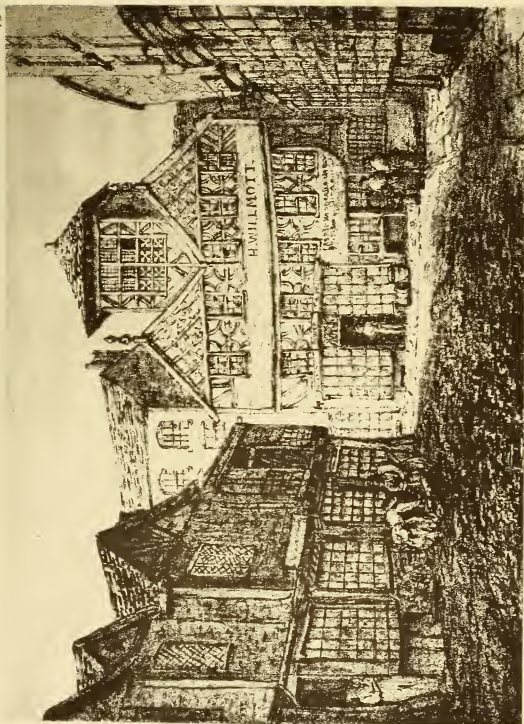


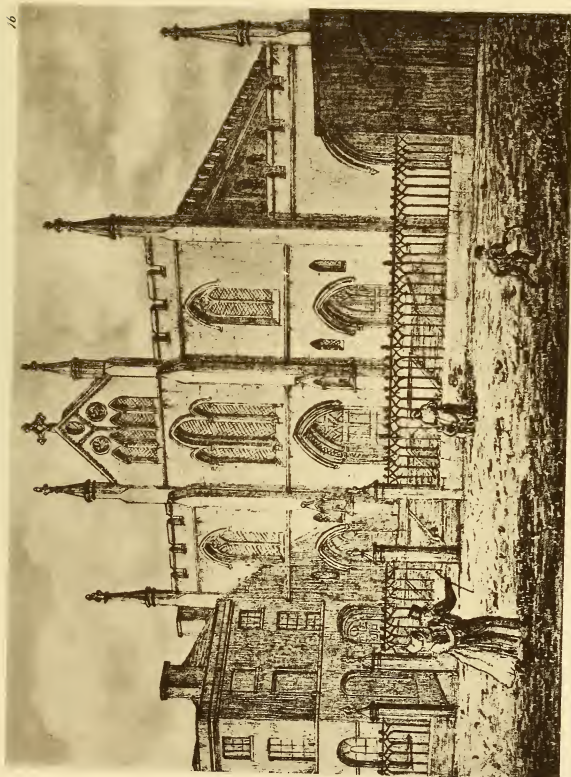


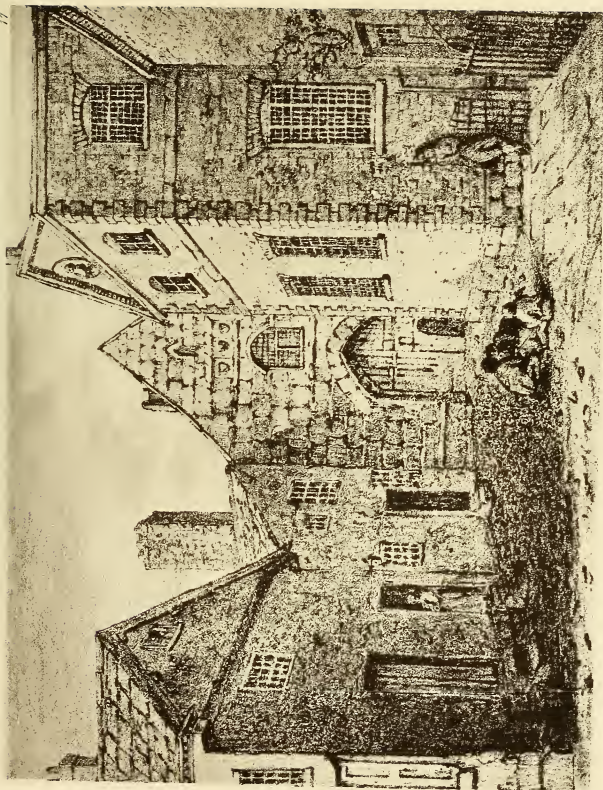


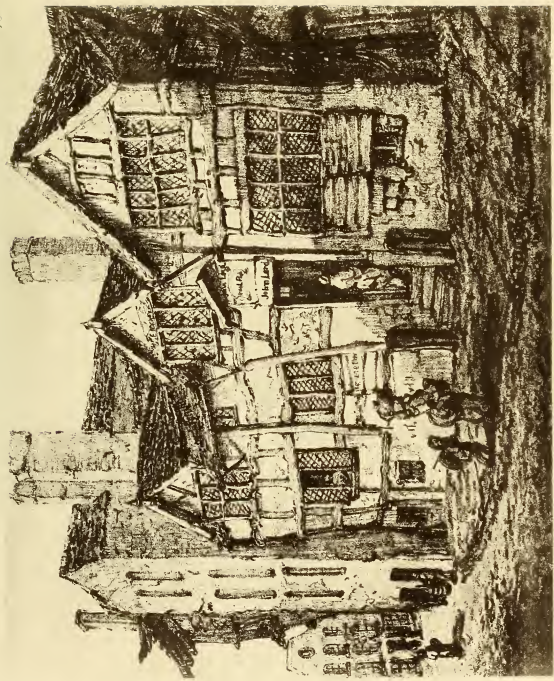


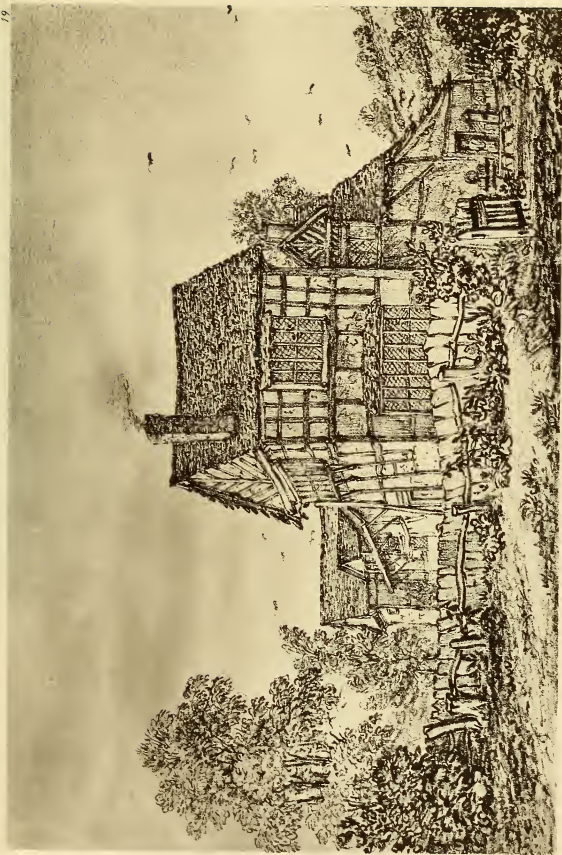




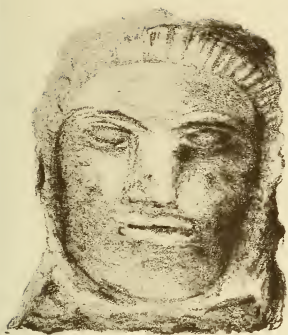


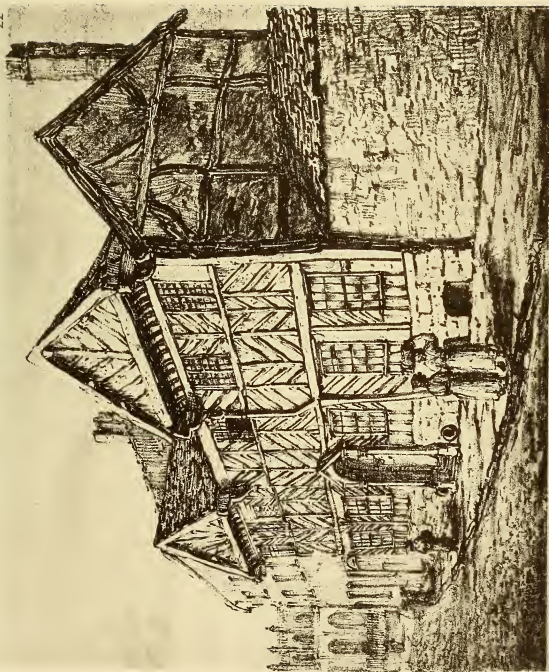




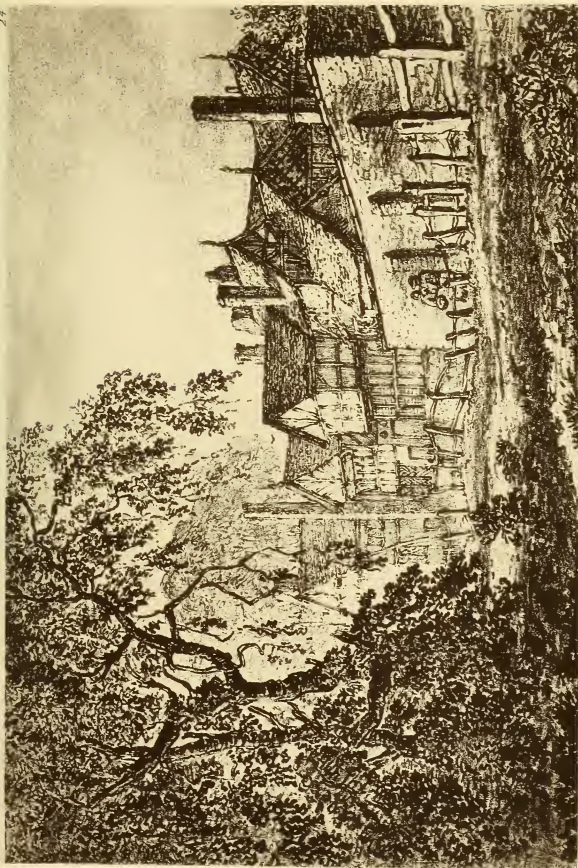


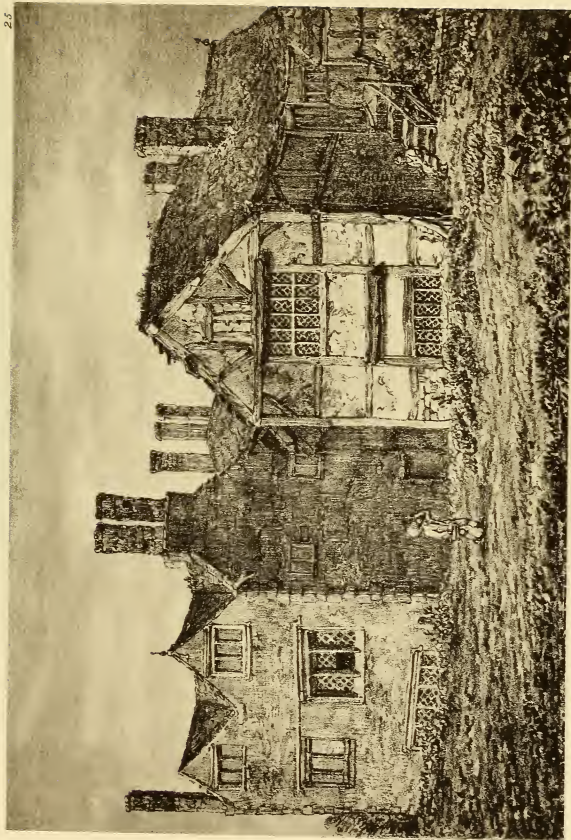


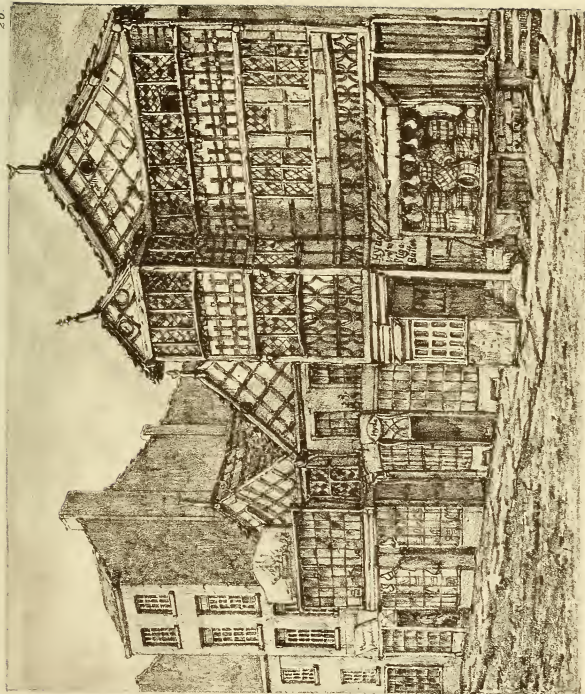


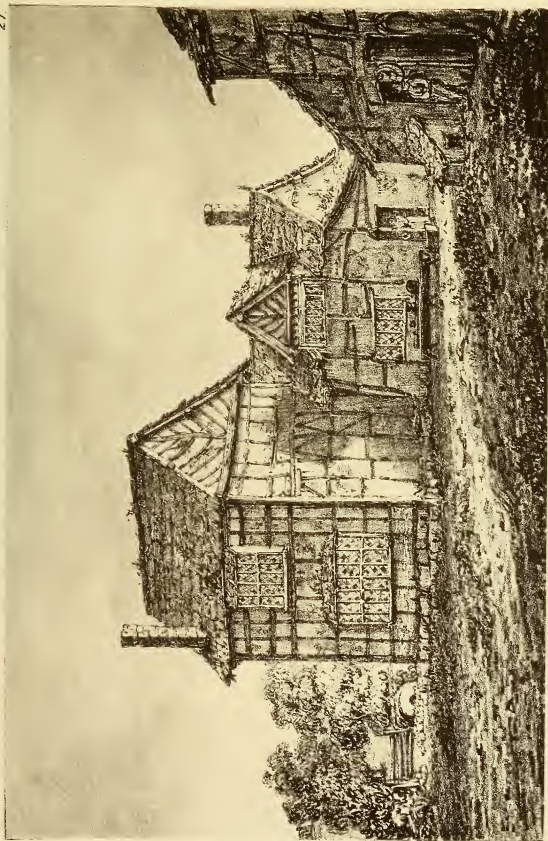


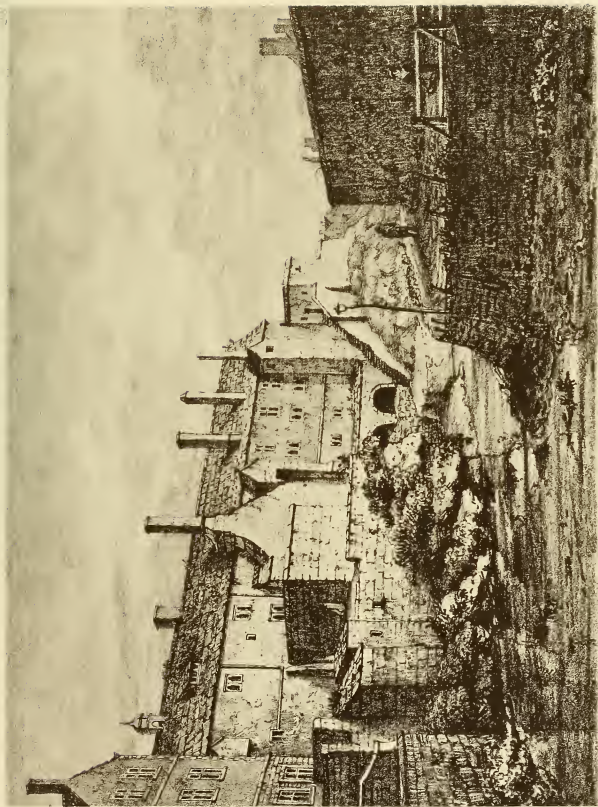


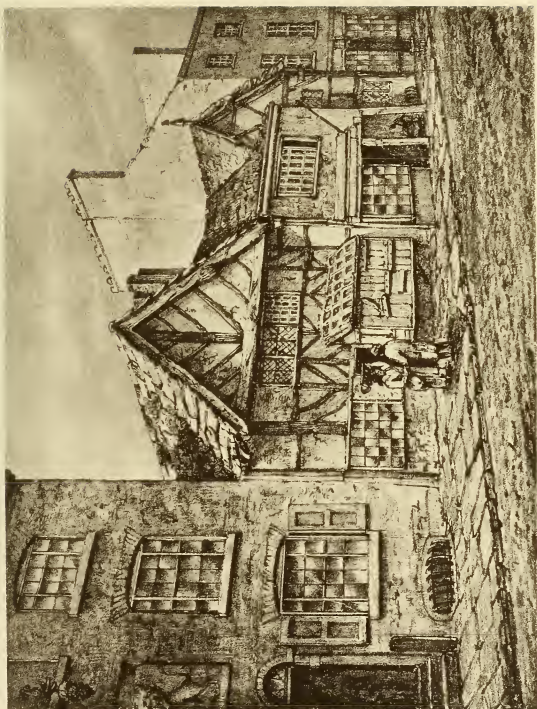


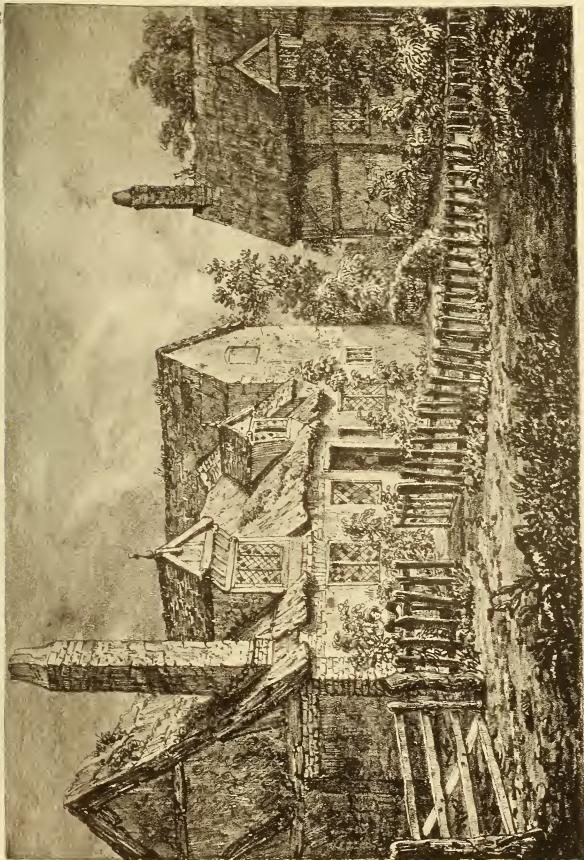


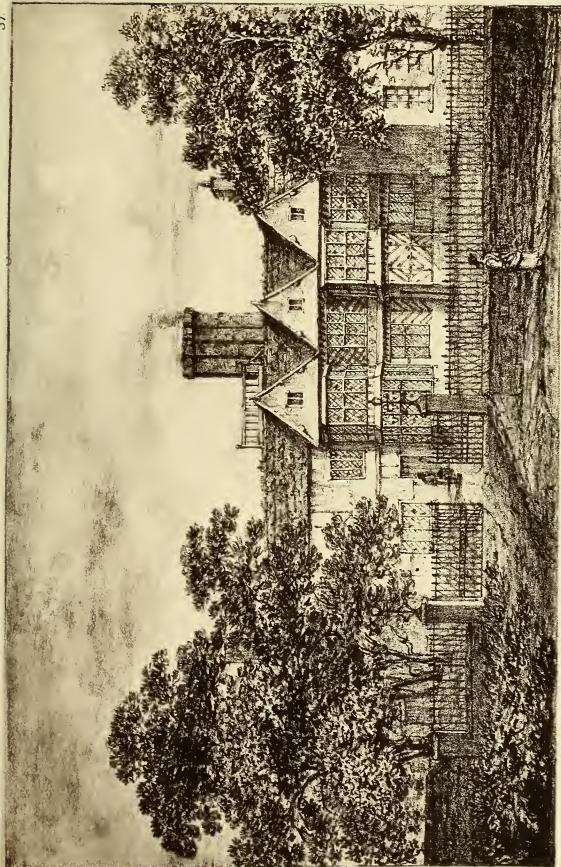


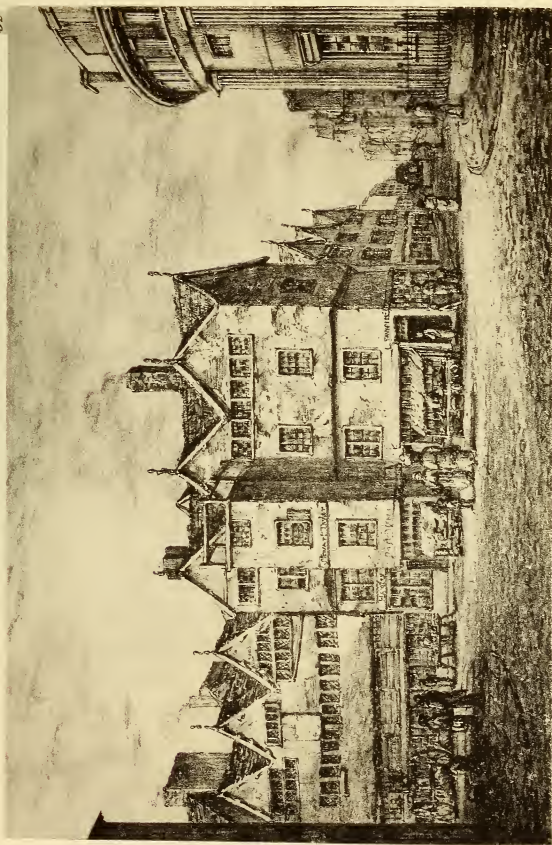


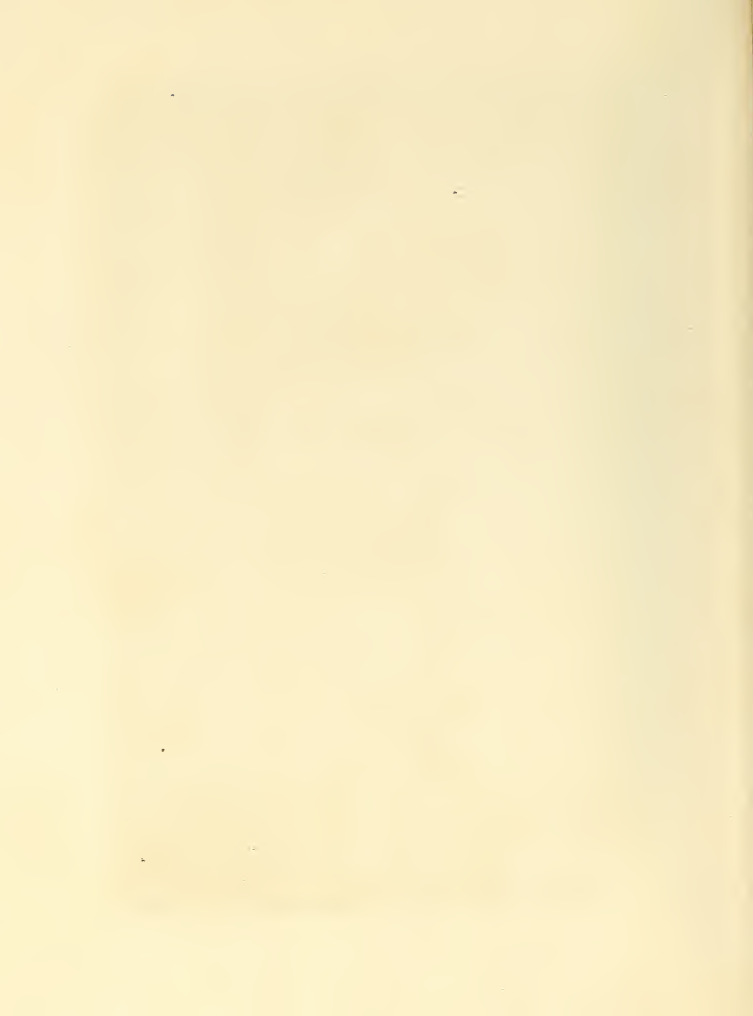










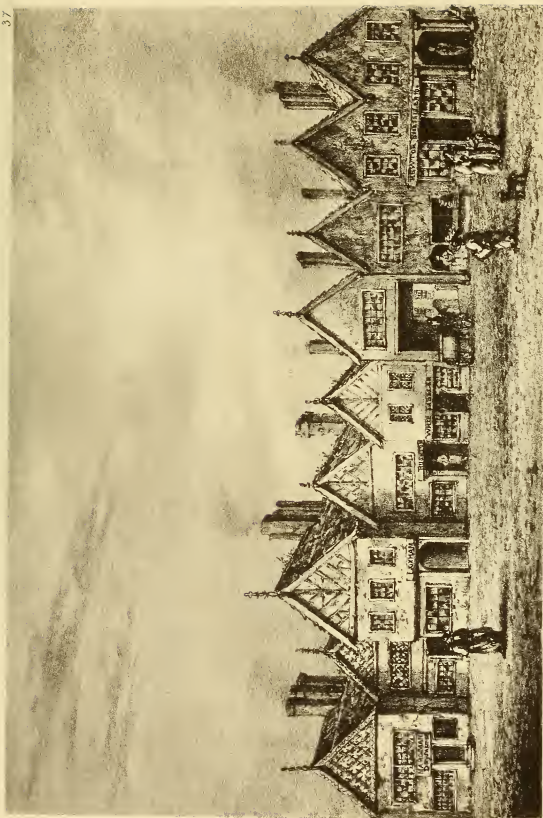




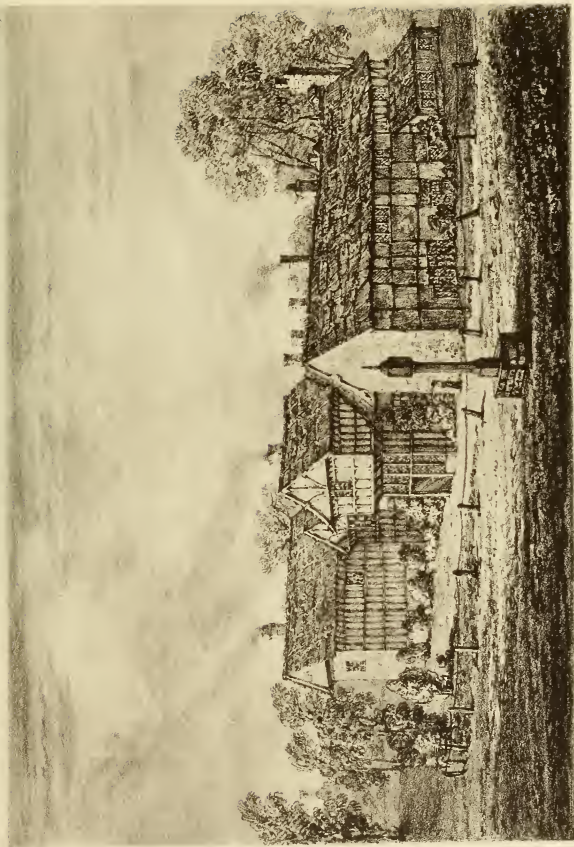




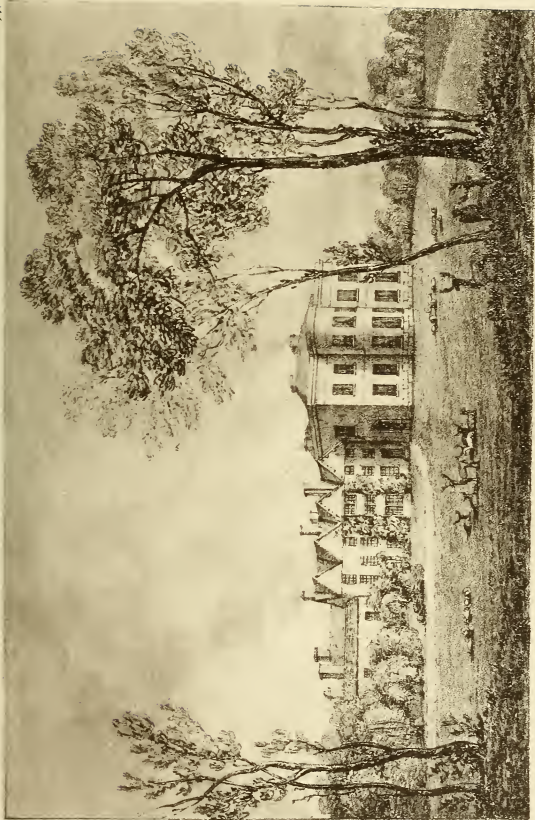


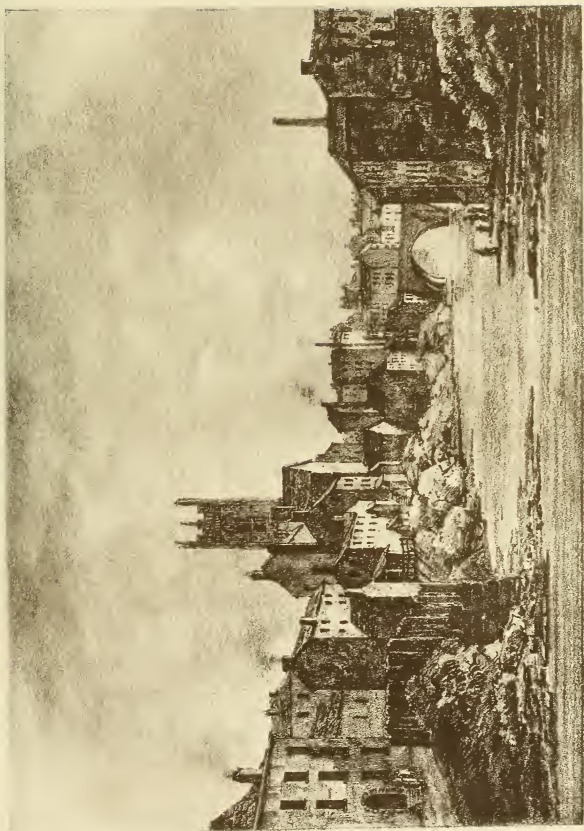






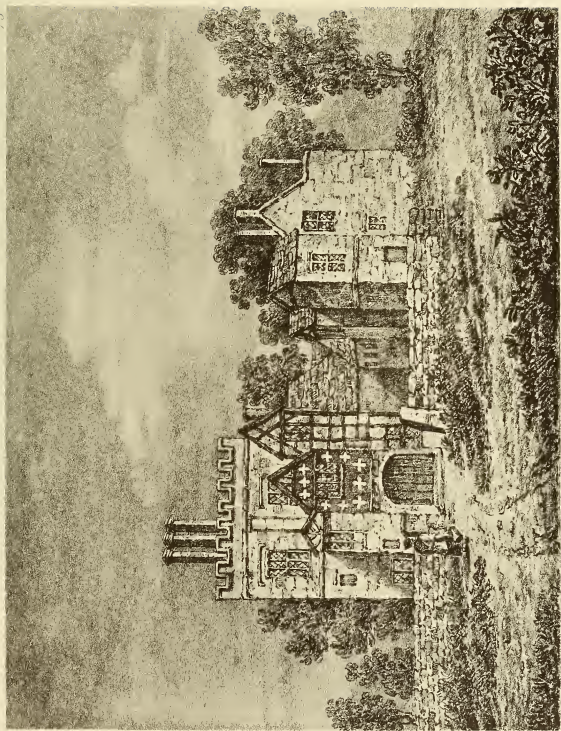






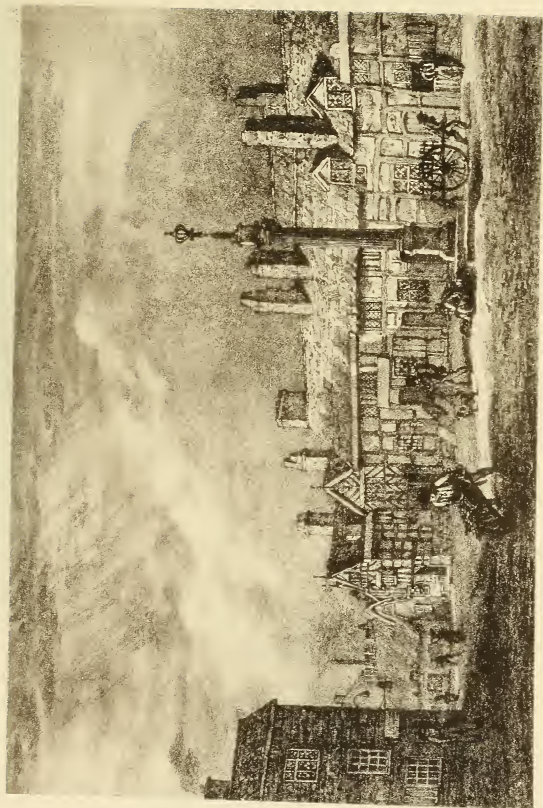


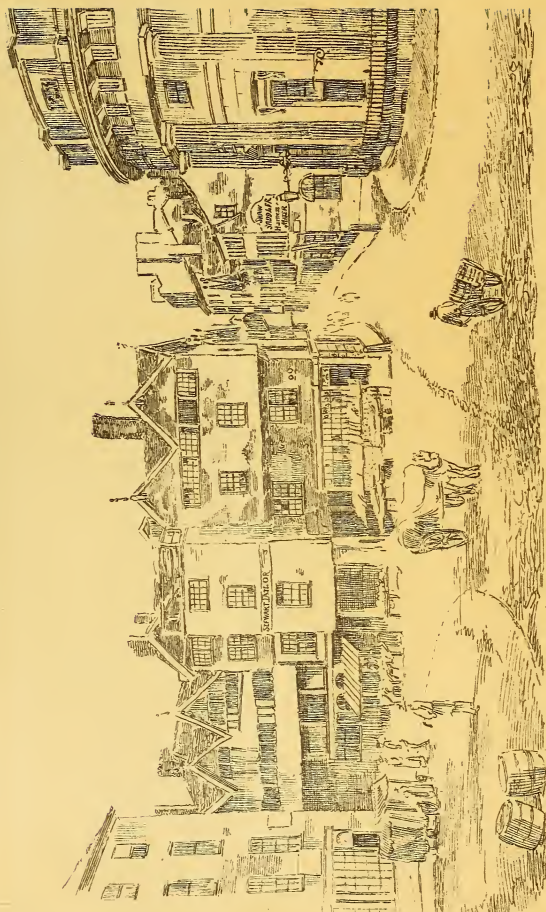


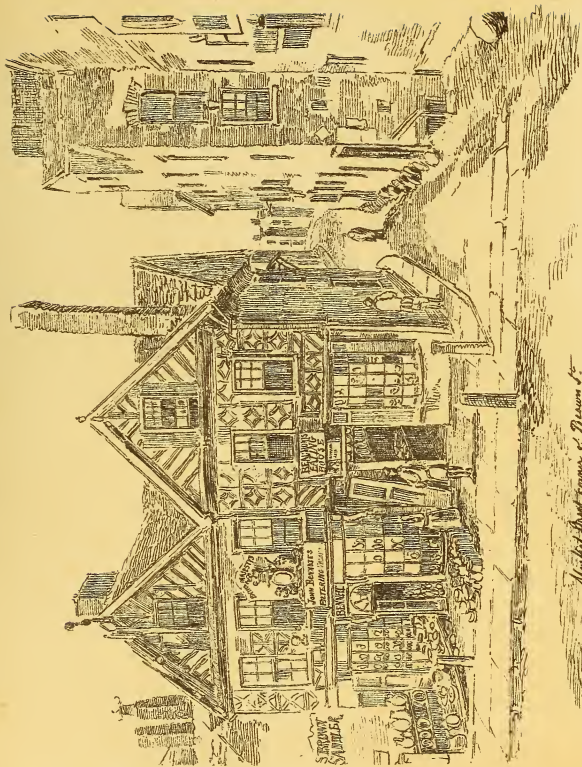




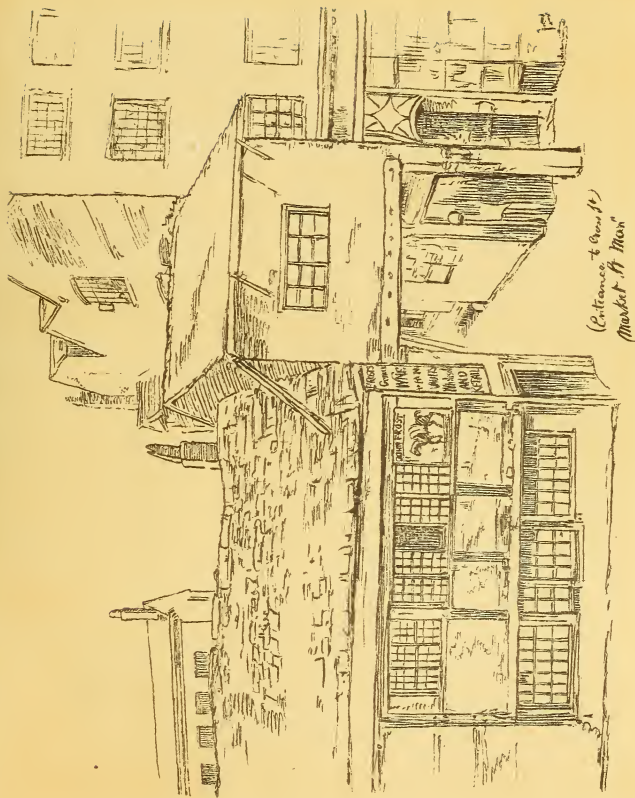




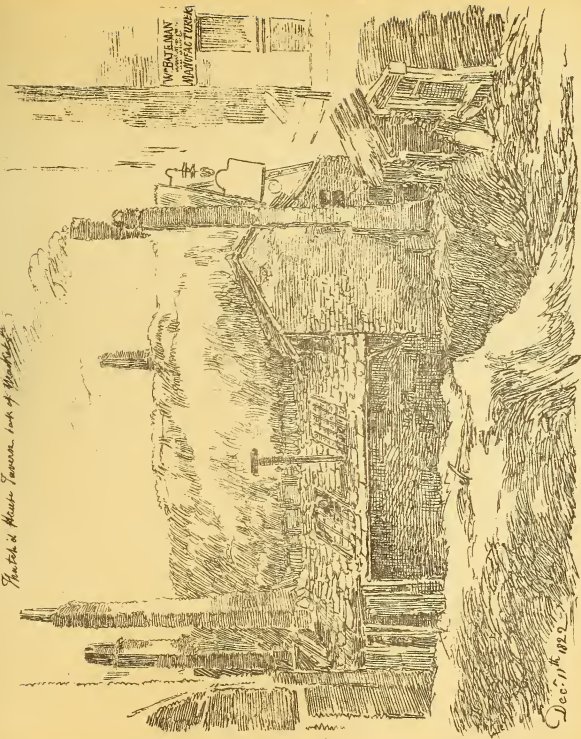


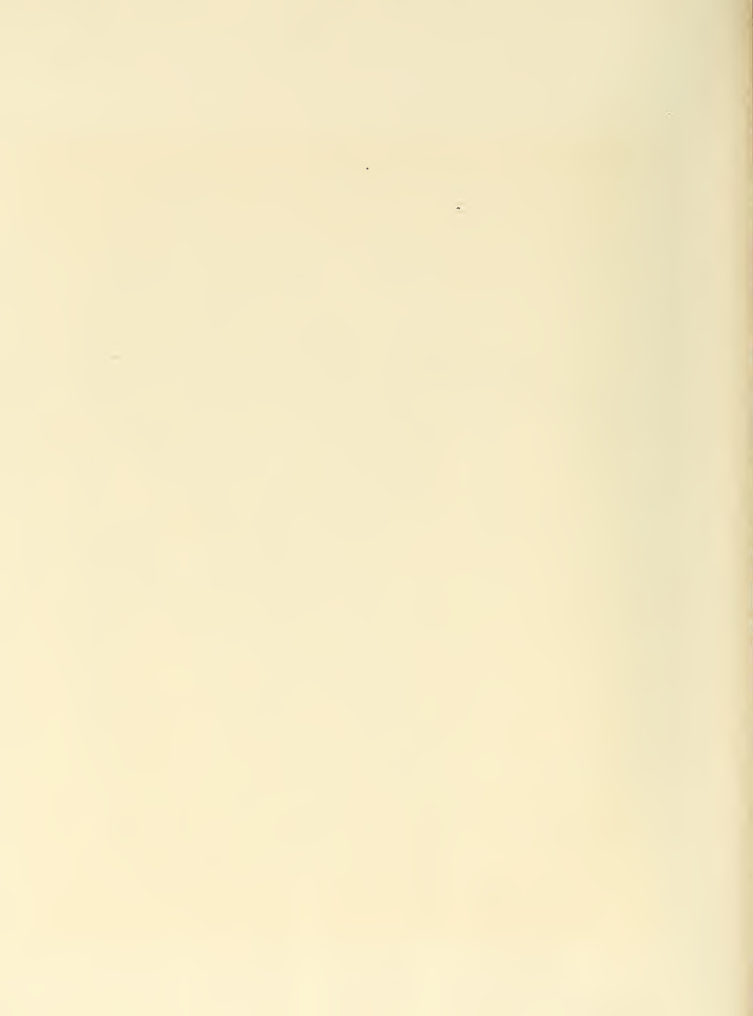


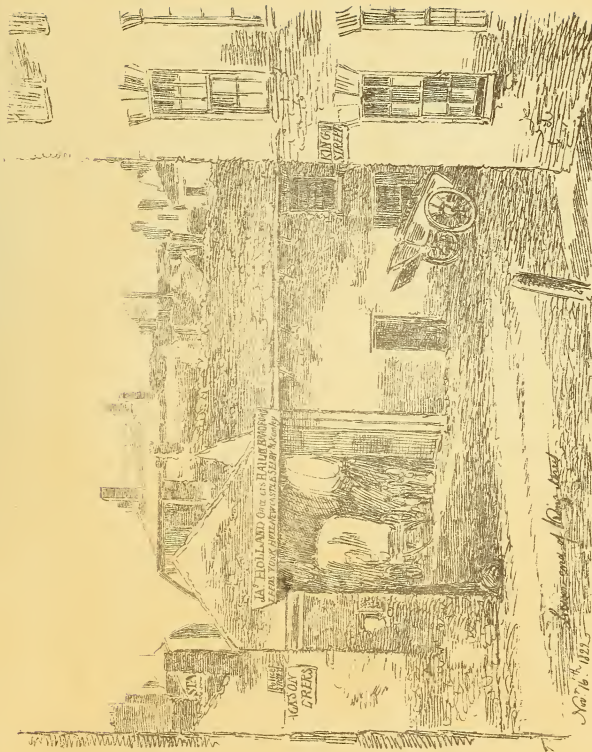
Market Street corner of Newcom St.

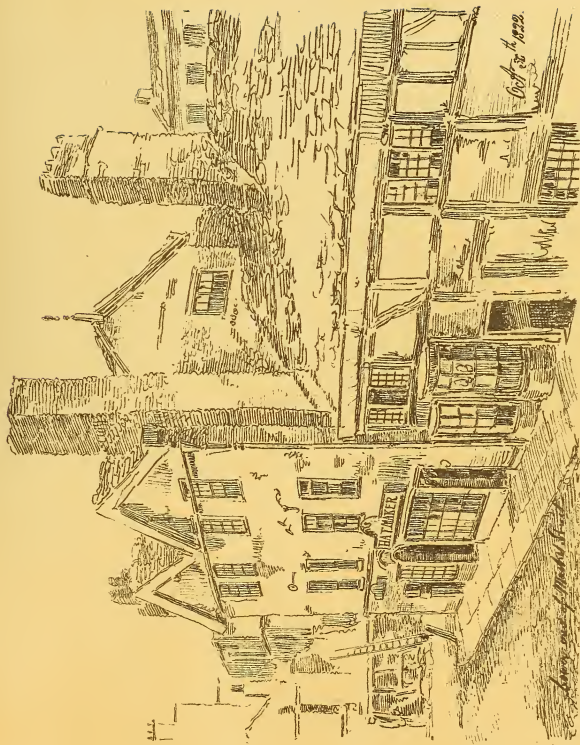


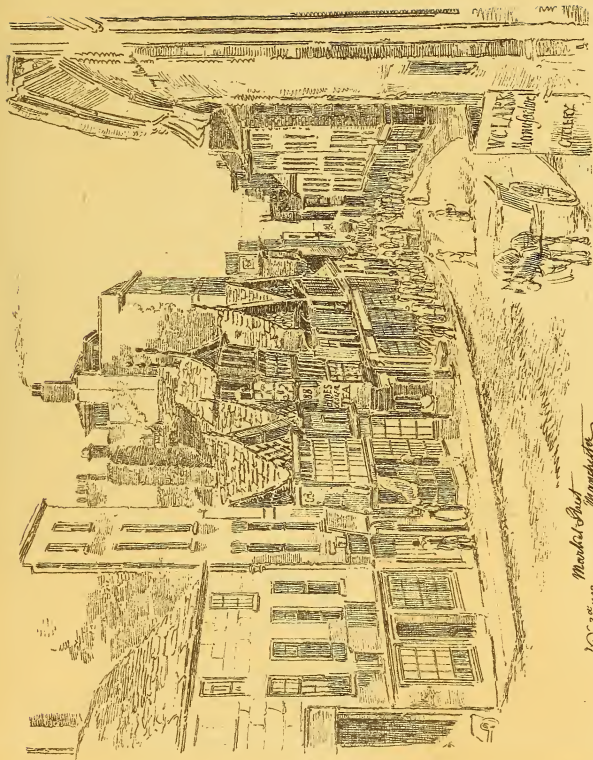
Portrait of Hester Tavern, look of Westbury





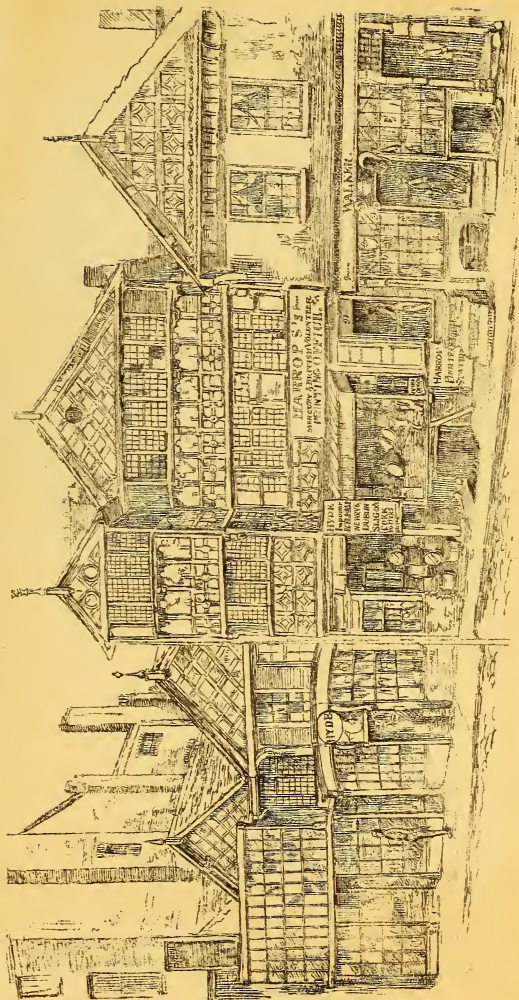






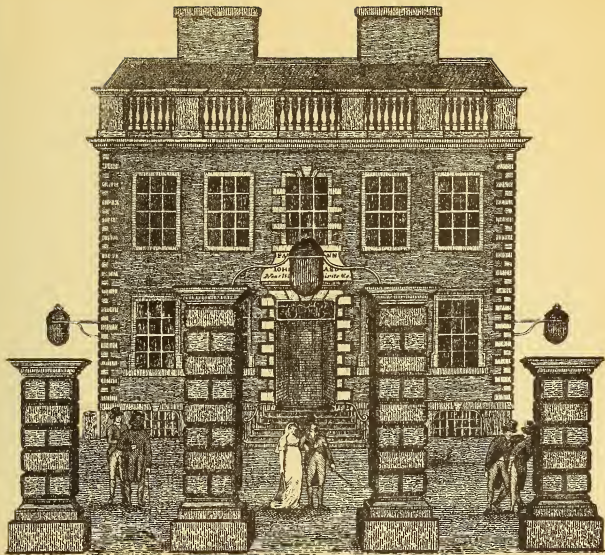
Market Street
Manchester

No. 3, 4, 122.





Old Smithy Lane
Manchester



PALACE INN

MARKET-STREET

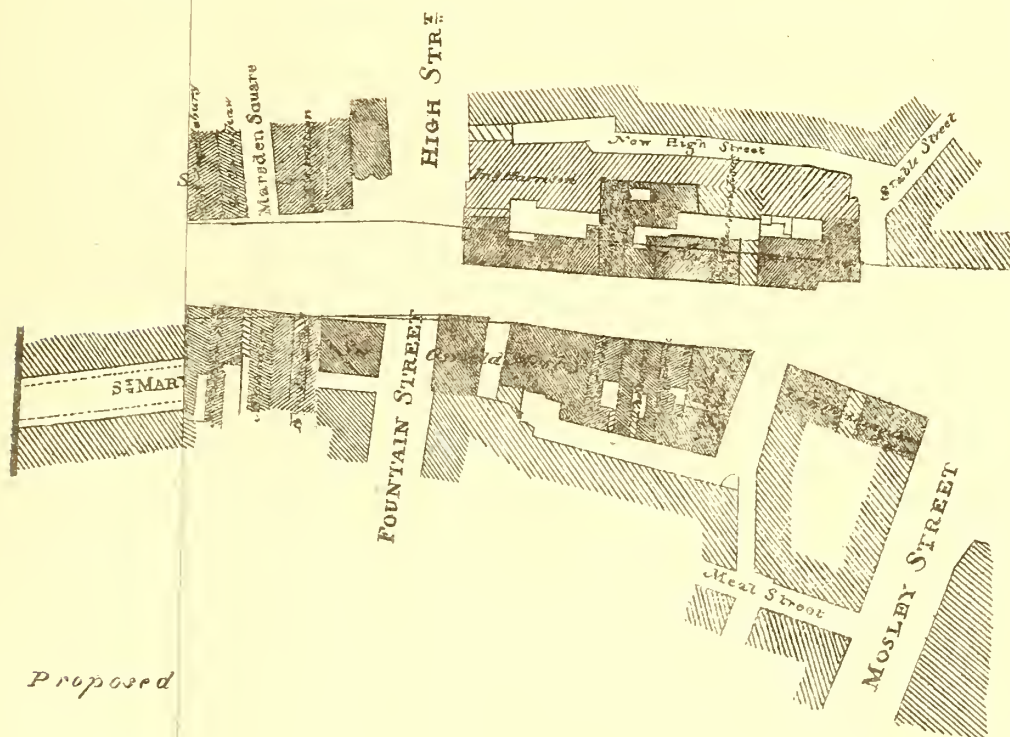
JOHN BLEASE

MANCHESTER

Presumes to solicit Public attention,
to the above Inn, which he has fitted up
in that manner, which enables him to say,
he hopes for a share of Public favour,
which it will always be his pride to
maintain.
N.B. Wines of the best Vintages, Kevery
Article of the Larder, of the first Quality.
Neat Chaises & Able Horses.

Allopo del' & fo' Manch'

M^c
Shen



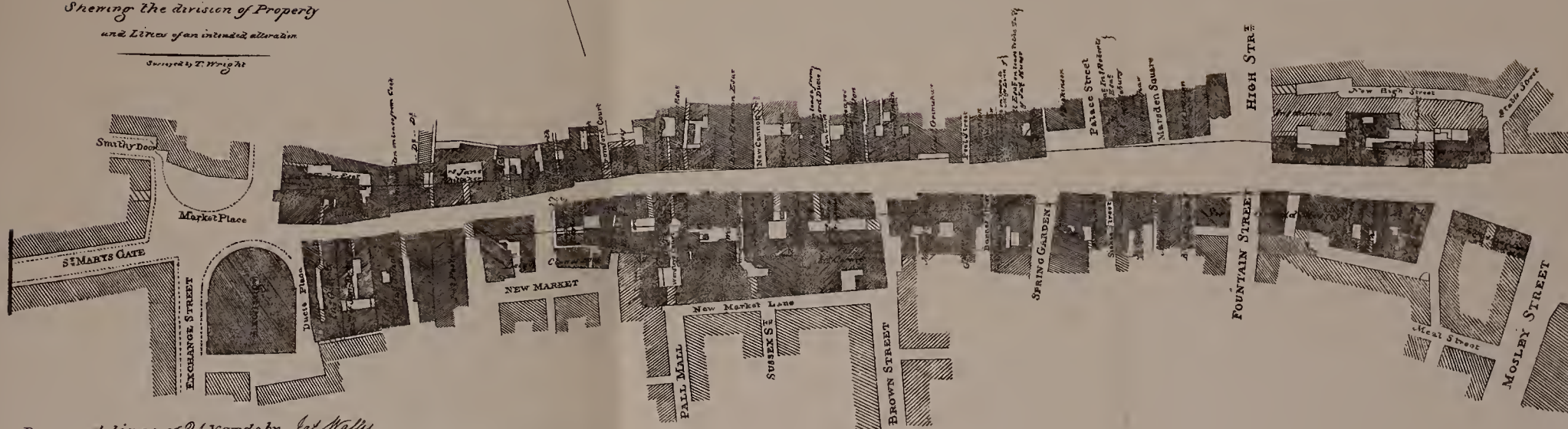
A PLAN

OF

MARKET STREET

Shewing the division of Property
and Lines of an intended alteration

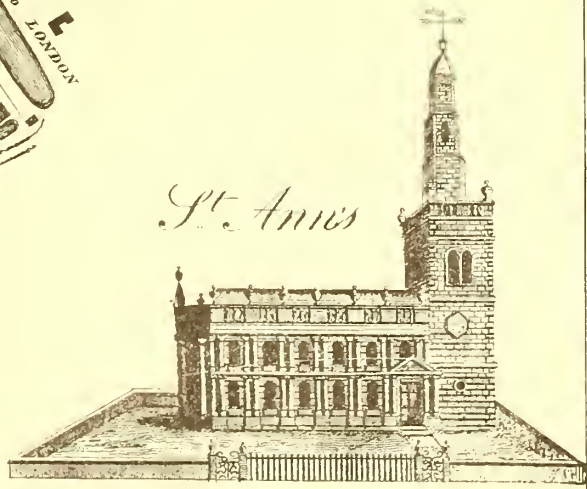
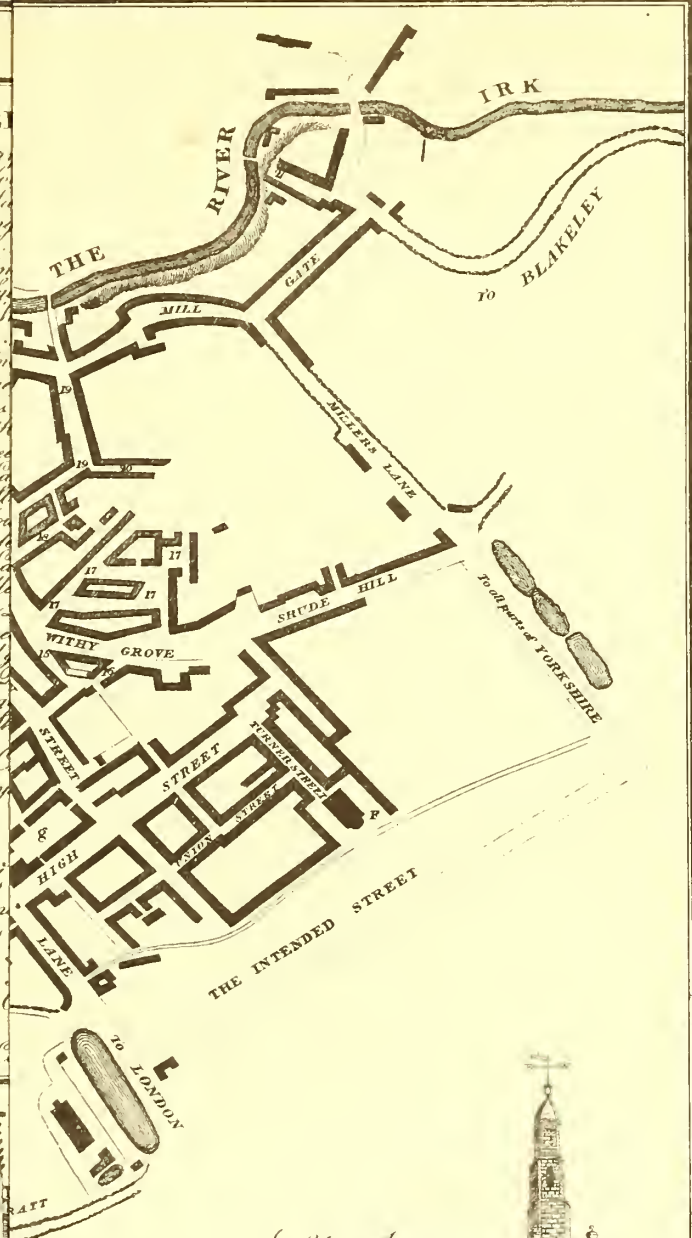
Surveyed by T. Wright



Proposed lines of 21 Yards by J. A. Wallis



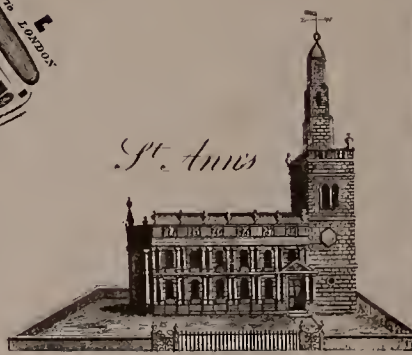
- REFER**
1. Muller's
 2. Sols. Ho.
 3. Ridge St.
 4. Standing
 5. Kings
 6. Hill Lane
 7. Back St.
 8. Chapel
 9. St. Peter's
 10. Dark En.
 11. Exchange
 12. Shambles
 13. Cockpit
 14. Pike St.
 15. Sugar L.
 16. Brown St.
 17. Cold St.
 18. Cock Gate
 19. Food L.
 20. Cock Alt.
 21. Smithy
 22. Half St.
 23. Old Mill
 24. Smithy
 25. Parsonage
 26. Water St.
- a. Christ's C.
 - b. St. Mary
 - c. St. Ann's
 - d. St. John's
 - e. Quakers
 - f. St. Paul's
 - g. Marsden
 - h. St. Ann's
 - i. Danvers
 - k. Meeting
 - l. Trinity
 - m. Langoon
 - n. House of C.



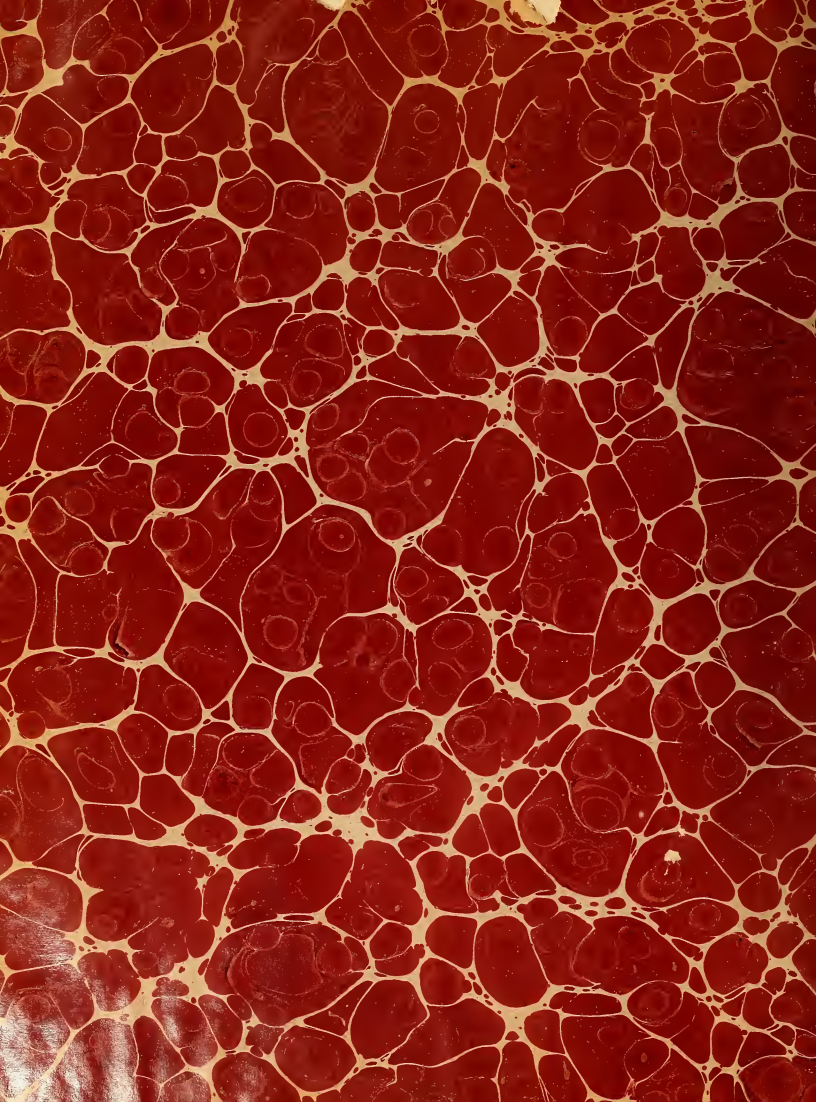
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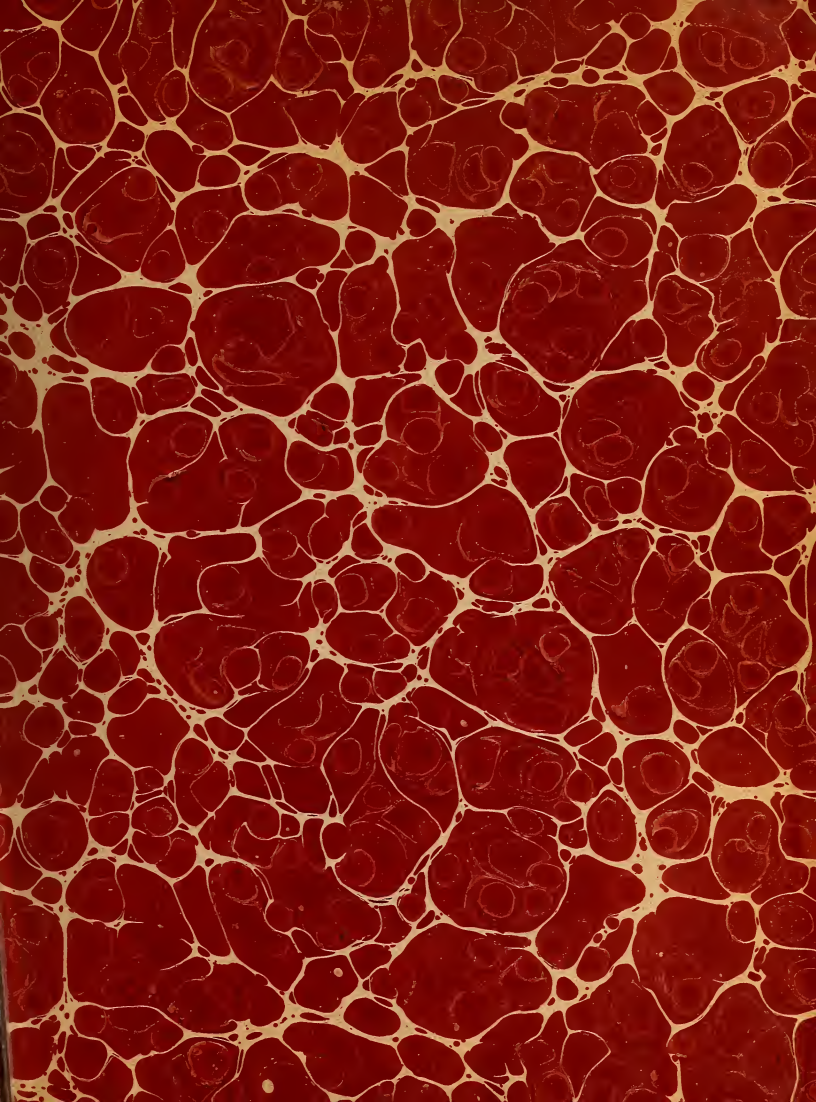
1. Mulberry Street
 2. John's Hall
 3. Bridge Field
 4. Bounding Alley
 5. Newgate Street
 6. Mill Lane
 7. Back Square
 8. Chapel Walk
 9. Salford Gates
 10. Park Entry
 11. Exchange
 12. Chambers
 13. Cockpit Hill
 14. Peter Street
 15. Sugar Lane
 16. Brown Street
 17. Cold House
 18. Cook's Gate
 19. Food Lane
 20. Cook's Alley
 21. Smithy Lane
 22. Half Street
 23. Old Mill Gate
 24. Smithy Lane
 25. Parsonage
 26. Water Street
- a. Christ's Church
 - b. St. Mary's Church
 - c. St. Anne's Church
 - d. St. John's Church
 - e. Quakers Meeting
 - f. St. Paul's Church
 - g. Marsden's Square
 - h. St. Anne's Square
 - i. Dawson's Square
 - k. Meeting House
 - l. Trinity Church Salford
 - m. Dungeon
 - n. House of Correction

A PLAN
of
MANCHESTER
(AND Salford)
in the County PALATINE of
LANCASTER.



A Scale of Miles





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